SHOPPERS DRUG MART
SEE WHAT'S NEW... CHECK OUT OUR LATEST OFFER ON PAGE 32

The best band in the world

Satirical punk band Die Roten Punkte coming to the Clutch PAGE 29

All that glitters back on trend

Britain's biggest fashion talents get a gold medal for style at the Olympic closing bash PAGE 33

VANCOUVER metro®

Thursday, August 23, 2012

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NDP would pull B.C. out of joint Enbridge review

Northern Gateway.
Dix proposes provincial assessment instead

PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS
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NDP Leader Adrian Dix says if his party is elected next year, it would pursue a made-in-B.C. environmental review of Enbridge's Northern Gateway pipeline.

Dix, who has openly opposed the $5.5-billion project, said the New Democrats would pull out of the federally led environmental review and insisted a provincial assessment would ensure that B.C.'s voice is heard on the issue.

"If we do nothing, then the decision of the B.C. government will be made by (Prime Minister) Stephen Harper," Dix told reporters Wednesday. "I don't think that's acceptable to British Columbians. I think (British Columbians) want people in B.C. to have a voice in the process and we intend to provide that."

He said under an "equivalency agreement" signed by the provincial and federal governments in 2010, either party can withdraw from the review process with 30 days' notice.

His administration, he added, would send that notice within a week of taking office.

Dix said Premier Christy Clark's Liberals have signed away the province's right to review the project and even accused her government of hiding evidence from the review.

Last month, Clark and Environment Minister Terry Lake announced five minimum requirements that must be met before B.C. will consider the construction and operation of heavy-oil pipelines from Alberta's oilsands to Kitimat.

Opposition Leader Adrian Dix, right, and NDP environment critic Rob Fleming announce Wednesday that the B.C. New Democrats will pull out of a federally led environmental review if the party forms government next year. PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS/METRO

Rooftop greenhouse a city oasis

The first vertical urban farm on the continent is expected to offer pesticide-free produce to Vancouverites PAGE 4

Getting thrifty in the kitchen

A grilled pizza topped with tomato salad can help you stretch your food dollars PAGE 40

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Clark blasted by Campbell's former chief of staff in ebook

Martyn Brown. Author says B.C. Liberals need a 'near miracle' to form next government

PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS
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Premier Christy Clark's leadership style and approach on controversial issues like Enbridge's Northern Gateway pipeline proposal are taking a beating from an unlikely critic.

In a recently published ebook on Amazon, Martyn Brown — Gordon Campbell's former chief of staff for 13 years — takes aim at how Premier Clark has "steered her government along an erratic course" since winning the party leadership early last year.

With the onslaught of dismal opinion-poll results and byelection losses in strongholds ridings, Brown writes, it "would take a near miracle for the B.C. Liberals to form the next government. In Towards A New Government in British Columbia, Brown criticizes Clark's stand on Enbridge's pipeline proposal.

The Clark government "remained officially undecided, unofficially supportive, and as invisible as possible," he writes.

Brown is also skeptical of the proposed plan to rebrand the party.

"If nothing changes, it will be seen as a failure," he writes. "If only the name changes, it will be seen as a cynical gesture."

He also questions the government's response when British Columbians voted to scrap the HST last August.

But in the book, Brown states that Clark's government still has time to "dig itself out of its self-dug grave."

"If there is a way for (it) to re-earn public confidence, it must start with a fundamental commitment to meaningful change that people can see and trust," he adds.

In a recently released ebook, Gordon Campbell's former chief of staff, Martyn Brown, criticizes Premier Christy Clark's leadership style and approach on issues like the HST and the Enbridge Northern Gateway project. PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS/METRO FILE

Vancity to Enbridge: It's not me, it's you

Vancity president and CEO Tamara Vrooman CONTRIBUTED/VANCITY

Canada's largest credit union has pulled all investments in oil giant Enbridge following a scathing U.S. report on the company's handling of its 2010 oil spill into Michigan's Kalamazoo River.

Vancity said in a statement Wednesday Enbridge no longer meets the company's environmental, social and governance criteria, given the July 10 U.S. National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) report that said the company's employees had acted like "Keystone Kops."

The board noted it took 17 hours, three shifts and several alarms before a local utility worker finally noticed the rupture and reported it to Enbridge.

The spill leaked 3.3 million litres of oil into the river, coating wildlife.

"Until now, Enbridge met our environmental, social and governance criteria," said Vancity president and CEO Tamara Vrooman via email.

"It's unusual for Vancity to issue a news release on what is a matter of normal business, but clearly this (is) an area of concern for our members."

Vancity divested Enbridge holdings in its IA Clarington Inhance SRI funds worth nearly $2.5 million.

Enbridge spokeswoman Jennifer Varey said via email the company respects fund managers' decisions about the companies in which they invest.

"We regret Vancity's decision and we would welcome an opportunity to discuss with them the enhancements we've implemented in the two years since the Marshall incident, many of which directly address the recommendations and conclusions released in the NTSB report this July," Varey wrote.

She said the company plans to enhance its pipeline inspection, leak detection, valves and cleanup technology over the next two years.

The Joint Review Panel assessing the company's proposed Northern Gateway pipeline from Alberta to B.C. has asked Enbridge to submit the NTSB report by Sept. 4. KATE WEBB/METRO

Noticing the spill

17

The U.S. National Transportation Safety Board noted it took 17 hours, three shifts and several alarms before a local utility worker finally noticed the rupture and reported it to Enbridge.

SMEN 1 NEWS

Mobile news

Chad Kroeger and Avril Lavigne aren't the only celeb couple who got engaged this year. Scan the code to see Hollywood's other headline-grabbing pairings.

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Alexandre Arsenault, a LaSalle College Fashion Design student, received first prize at Télio 2012 contest.

Photographer: Jimmy Hamelin
model agency: SPECS
Model: Nicky

Aw, bummer. Police throw wet blanket on giant teen house party, say it's a hoax

Thousands of Langley teens will be making other plans this weekend, after the house-party invitation they received on Facebook was revealed to be a fake.

About 9,000 Facebook users, mostly local high school students, were invited to a party at an undisclosed home in Langley this weekend and some 2,000 RSVP'd, police say.

But Cpl. Holly Marks, Langley RCMP spokesperson, said the account that sent out the invitations had been compromised.

"In all likelihood it was a prank being played on (the account's owner)," Marks said.

The posting has been removed from Facebook, but police are setting up extra roadblocks and traffic checks in the area just to be sure.

Marks said she hadn't heard of anything like this happening in Langley before. But it's not the first time a teen has unwittingly invited thousands of people to a house party on Facebook.

In June 2011, about 1,500 people showed up at the home of a 16-year-old German girl after she posted a public invitation to her birthday party on Facebook. By forgetting to set the privacy settings, she effectively invited the world to celebrate with her.

ELIZABETH HAMES/FOR METRO

Wildfires. Tension eases in Interior as evacuation order downgraded to alert

An evacuation order near a 400-hectare wildfire in the southern Interior has been reduced to an alert even as the blaze has spread, a fire information officer says.

Mike Garrett said Wednesday that the evacuation alert, which includes 15 homes and a vacation ranch, means about 100 people need to be ready to leave at a moment's notice from the area about 40 kilometres west of Clinton.

Officials said the weather has been co-operating and the fire has not moved toward any structures or homes. A local state of emergency was declared in the Thompson-Nicola Regional District as the blaze threatened about 15 homes near Big Bar.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Extra billing. B.C. calls for injunction against clinic

The province is seeking an injunction that would force a controversial private clinic operator to stop billing patients.

The Cambie Surgery Centre and the Specialist Referral Clinic, which are owned by the same company, have been illegally billing patients for procedures that are supposed to be covered by the public system, according to a provincial audit released last month.

The B.C. Medical Services Commission ordered them to stop the practice by Aug. 17, but the clinics ignored the deadline, spurring the province to apply for an injunction. No date has been set to hear the application.

The audit's findings were no surprise. The clinics' outspoken operator, Dr. Brian Day, has openly admitted to flouting the health-care law for more than a decade, repeatedly challenging the province to try to shut him down.

Day has already filed his own court case challenging the constitutionality of the province's health-care law, which effectively bans clinics from billing patients for services already covered by the public system.

He suggested the pending fight over the injunction will only hasten his ability to make his arguments.

"We consider this application good news for us because, as you know, court hearings take a long time, and we will be able to put our arguments before the dispassionate and objective judge," Day said on Wednesday.

The Medical Services Commission issued a statement confirming it filed the injunction application, but it declined further comment.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

An oasis in the heart of the city

Up on the farm. Plan to grow greens on the roof of a parking garage is just the beginning for a local firm

ELIZABETH HAMES
vancouver@metronews.ca

North America's first vertical urban farm is coming to a parking garage near you.

Vancouver-based Alterrus recently began construction on a greenhouse on top of a five-storey City Park garage. In just a few weeks, the desolate roof of 535 Richards St. will be transformed into a giant greenhouse abounding with pesticide-free local produce.

"We know that Vancouver's more progressive in terms of people eating healthy," Alterrus CEO Christopher Ng said on Wednesday. "What we're doing is allowing them an opportunity to make that choice easier."

The polymer-film windows of the greenhouse will provide shelter for leafy greens, which will grow on stacked planter boxes nearly 25 feet high. A conveyor belt will move the boxes around the greenhouse so no one plant gets more or less sunlight than any other.

Ng expects the garden to yield an annual crop of between 150,000 and 200,000 pounds of produce — enough food to supply four large grocery stores with greens for an entire year.

"That's huge productivity for 4,000 square feet," Ng said.

When the greens are harvested in October, they will be sold to grocery stores, restaurants and distributors under the brand Local Garden. But Ng couldn't specify which companies are on board.

He said leafy greens and herbs are a choice crop for high-density farming because, unlike tomatoes and potatoes, lettuce doesn't grow very tall. That allows growers to stuff the greenhouse with enough planter boxes to make the project economically viable.

More important, Ng said, vertical farming is an effective way to grow nutritious plants in a smaller space, while using less energy and water.

About 85 per cent of the water used will be recycled, with the other 15 per cent being absorbed by the plants. And because the vegetables aren't being trucked in from farms 1,500 kilometres away, the local farm will reduce greenhouse gases.

Alterras CEO Christopher Ng, standing at the future site of North America's first vertical urban farm, has plans to build a VertiCrop garden in every major North American city within five years. ELIZABETH HAMES/FOR METRO

Vancouver is just the beginning for Alterrus, which has plans to build a VertiCrop garden in every major North American city within five years.

It's an ambitious goal for a company that only recently turned its focus to vertical gardens, and just three months ago went through a major rebranding. But Ng is confident the company can pull it off.

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1.02	VVS1	E	VG	$19,815.00	GIA
1.01	VS1	F	EX	$11,099.00	GIA
1.01	SI2	J	EX	$5,060.00	GIA
1.00	SI2	G	EX	$6,270.00	GIA
0.91	VVS2	G	VG	$6,720.00	GIA
0.90	VS1	D	Good	$7,200.00	GIA
0.81	VS1	F	VG	$5,358.00	GIA
0.78	I1	F	Good	$2,160.00	GIA
0.73	VVS2	E	VG	$6,022.00	GIA
0.71	VS2	D	VG	$4,266.00	GIA
0.70	VS1	E	VG	$4,440.00	GIA
0.58	SI1	E	VG	$2,040.00	GIA
0.53	VS2	E	VG	$2,220.00	GIA
0.50	SI1	H	VG	$1,320.00	GIA
0.40	SI2	F	EX	$874.00	GIA
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Self-proclaimed infidelity expert Sarah Symonds has a new reality show set in Vancouver that helps unhappy mistresses ditch their married men. CONTRIBUTED BY ALASTAIR BIRD

Mistresses come clean in TV series

Showcase. The Mistress premiers Aug. 20 at 8 p.m. PT

KATE WEBB
kate.webb@metronews.ca

Vancouver cheaters are going to have their shocking secrets exposed in a new show called The Mistress, premiering on Slice next Wednesday.

The identities of the married men are protected, assured host Sarah Symonds, who made tabloid headlines globally several years ago for her own alleged affairs with celebrity chef Gordon Ramsay and British author Lord Jeffrey Archer.

But 14 real-life mistresses are ready to publicly relinquish the destructive and often heartbreaking downsides of being the "other woman."

One is being pressured by her philanderer to move closer to his office. Another is struggling with self-esteem issues after a 12-year affair.

"Every one of them said, 'I want to do this to help other women in this situation. I want to speak out because I'm tired of living my life in secret and turmoil,'" Symonds said of the reasons the women are outing themselves on television.

In each episode, Symonds walks one mistress through her custom 13-step program. (Disclaimer: The 13th step is a rewarding glass of chardonnay).

The 12 steps will sound familiar to any addict: admitting you have a problem, committing to reclaim your life, coming clean to friends and family, and quitting cold turkey.

Since filming the show, all of the women Symonds helped have stayed strong to date, she said, and many have healthy relationships with single men.

As for the hostess, "I am in a healthy relationship with a lovely man who is very much available, and it feels great."

Heritage. A string quartet to welcome fall

Are you craving some first-class Vancouver culture — or did you do something terrible to your mother or girlfriend and need to make amends?

All easily solved with a ticket to a new concert series being presented this fall by the Vancouver Heritage Foundation and Borealis String Quartet called Music in Heritage Homes.

The name says it all. Over four afternoons, the quartet will entertain guests in four stunning heritage buildings, followed by a high tea reception. Sept. 13 they will play Haydn in a rebuilt 17th-century barn. Sept. 27 they will elevate guests with Beethoven and a Taiwanese folk-song suite in a waterfront Point Grey home. Oct. 11 a restored church will be filled with the sweet sounds of Beethoven and Shostakovich. And, Oct. 25 they will once again bring Beethoven to life in a mid-century modern venue.

Tickets are $146.60 for one afternoon, or $530 for all four. Visit vancouverheritagefoundation.org. KATE WEBB/METRO

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Harper's haven? Vast new national park mixes tranquillity and trade

A vast tract of mountainous Northwest Territories terrain was christened Wednesday as a new national park — with a twist.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper billed it as striking a balance between protecting the environment and growing Canada's economy.

The original Naats'ihch'oh reserve proposal was to protect 7,600 square kilometres from commercial activity.

But the final decision instead sets aside just over 4,300 square kilometres of lakes and rainbow-hued mountains about 90 minutes south of Norman Wells.

The remaining territory has potential for mineral development, which is why it was left out of the final plan.

"One of our objectives is to make sure we protect our environment and also allow for economic opportunity here," said Harper, who unveiled plans for the park as part of his annual late-summer sojourn through Canada's North.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quoted

"It's a spectacular place for a new national park."

Prime Minister Stephen Harper,
as he toured the Naats'ihch'oh reserve

Stephen Harper and wife Laureen tour the park. ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

21 drivers charged

Rubberneckers on the 401 get a cellphone shock

Ontario Provincial Police have charged 21 drivers for rubbernecking on Highway 401.

Officers attending a collision involving two tractor-trailers in Napanee, Ont., noticed numerous drivers using their hand-held devices to take photos of the wreckage as they drove past.

The drivers caught were charged with distracted driving, which carries a $155 fine.

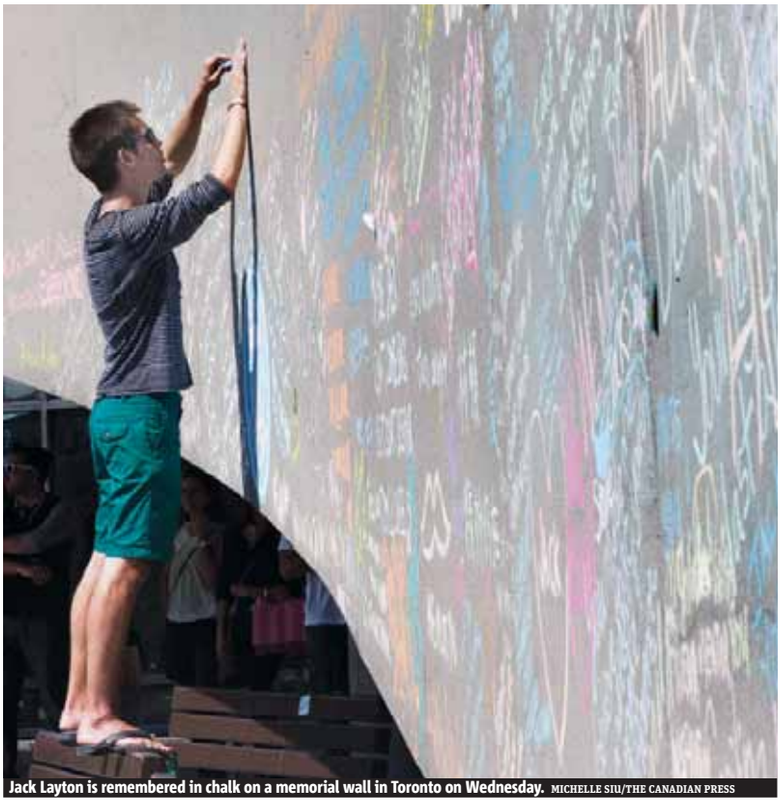
Another driver spotted using his elbows to steer his car was charged with careless driving, police said.

The OPP says a driver sending a text while driving at highway speed travels the length of a football field without looking at the road.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Love shines for Layton — but politics peek in

One year later. Peace Tower crowd told Jack's message would be: Roll up those sleeves ... start making a difference



Jack Layton is remembered in chalk on a memorial wall in Toronto on Wednesday. MICHELLE SIU/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Love and politics do mix, it was clear Wednesday.

There was an unapologetically partisan bite to the message of love, hope and optimism as Jack Layton was remembered on Parliament Hill.

A year after his death, the former NDP leader's political causes were front and centre as a small crowd gathered under the shadow of the Peace Tower.

They had come to honour the man who led the party to an electoral breakthrough.

"I miss him dearly, but he would be telling us all right now to roll up those sleeves, get to work and get moving with making a difference," NDP MP Paul Dewar told the Layton admirers.

Dewar then listed some NDP priorities — starting with restoring full healthcare coverage to refugee claimants.

"It's a shame that the Conservatives have cut it," Dewar said.

Did the raw politics taint the occasion?

Not according to Dewar.

"The way to commemorate Jack is to get on with the work," said the Ottawa MP.

Still, the message of love was strong.

A young woman held a simple orange sign emblazoned with the word "Love," while the Dominion carillonneur played John Lennon's song Imagine in the Peace Tower.

Quoted

"Today is about love.... That is the message."

Louis Lefebvre, 23,
a self-described homeless person at the Peace Tower celebration.

A small Layton photo was placed next to orange flowers and a bottle of Orange Crush — the nickname given the NDP's electoral sweep in Quebec in May 2011.

Meanwhile, love shone brightly as events were staged across Canada to mark Layton's death from cancer last August at age 61. Picnics and pub nights were being held from Smithers, B.C., to Charlottetown.

But by far the largest of those events was held in Toronto, where Layton served as a high-profile city councillor before moving to federal politics in 2003.

By Wednesday afternoon, admirers had honoured Layton's memory with colourful tributes scrawled in chalk outside Toronto's city hall — a more restrained version of the mural that plastered the grounds after his death last summer.

Kenn Bell carefully printed the words "The future is bright" in vivid orange and white block letters, using the New Democrats' trademark colours. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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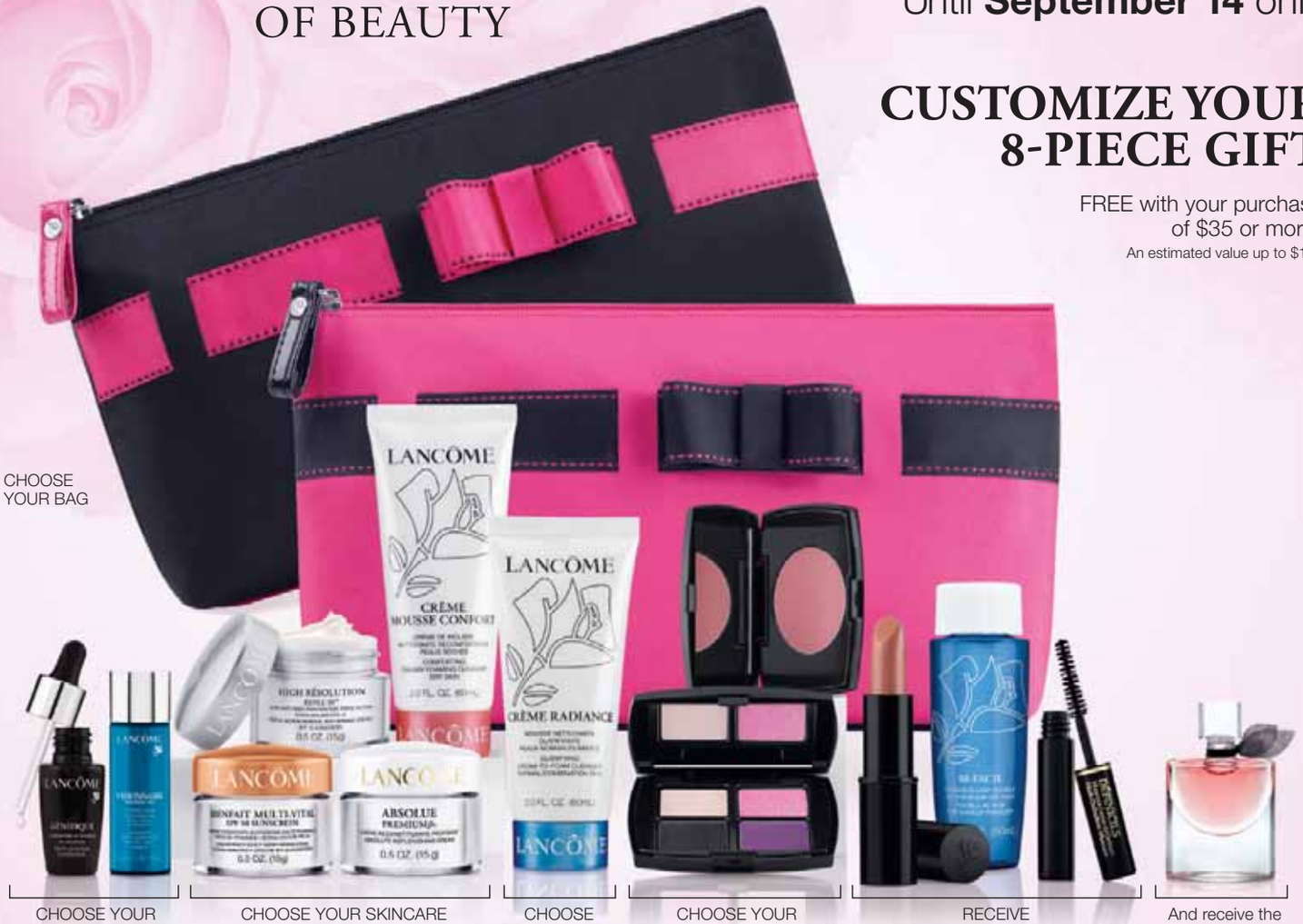

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Thousands of student protesters re-emerge amid Quebec election

Tuition dispute. About 43,000 remain on strike: CLASSE student association

Student protests made a reappearance in the Quebec election Wednesday after having dropped off the radar in the campaign's first weeks.

Thousands of students marched in Montreal — just as they have on the 22nd of every month for the last six months.

The event was peaceful, at times even festive, though in some cases people tore down a number of political campaign posters for different parties.

The protests have faded as an election issue, mere weeks after they were attracting international news coverage and dominating the political conversation.

The student unrest didn't even come up once in the only election debate to have featured all four leaders of the biggest parties.

Part of that absence has to do with a strategic decision made by many students: Most have returned to class, with some citing a desire to avoid making themselves a campaign issue.

Premier Jean Charest is accused by opponents of manipulating the calendar to ensure the strikes would be a top-of-mind issue for voters. His emergency law set the mid- to late-August dates for the return to colleges and universities, and then he called an election for that period.

If so, very few students appear to be playing their assigned part in Charest's supposed campaign script. The number of students on strike has diminished by more than four-fifths since the peak of the movement.

That doesn't mean the issue has disappeared completely; universities are set to reopen in the coming days and it's unclear how smooth that process will be.

One spokesman for the more militant student organization, the CLASSE, promised the students would continue striking in defiance of Bill 78. He said the action would persist during, and after, the election. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Protesters opposing Quebec student tuition-fee hikes demonstrate in Montreal on Wednesday. GRAHAM HUGHES/THE CANADIAN PRESS

PQ's pledge

- Marie Malavoy of the Parti Québécois has urged students not to pay their fees for the semester.
- The PQ is promising to scrap the Charest government's $254-a-year, seven-year plan for tuition hikes if it gets elected. The PQ has not said how it would fill the fiscal gap but is promising to call a symposium on the issue.

Tampa. Hurricane could strike site of Republican convention: Forecasts

Tropical Storm Isaac is posing a potential threat to next week's Republican National Convention in Florida, which culminates in the nomination of Mitt Romney for president.

The U.S. National Hurricane Center on Wednesday morning said Isaac was expected to strengthen and could become a hurricane by Thursday.

Convention organizers knew it was a possibility during the peak of hurricane season. About 70,000 delegates, party officials, journalists, protesters and others are expected to attend.

It's been 90 years since a major hurricane made a direct hit on Tampa, the site of the convention. Florida, historically the nation's top target for tropical systems, has not been hit by a major hurricane since Wilma in 2005.

National Hurricane Center computer models had predicted Isaac would become a hurricane over the next few days, meaning maximum winds must be at least 120 km/h. Some models had the storm striking Florida, including the Tampa Bay area, after moving across Cuba or the Bahamas as early as Sunday morning.

Jeff Masters, director of meteorology at Weatherunderground.com, said long-range storm track predictions five days in advance are notoriously inaccurate, often off an average of 418 kilometres. But Masters said the climate situation has improved chances that Florida could be in the system's sights during the Republican event that runs Monday through Thursday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Just in case

- Republican and state officials have backup plans in place if the storm makes its way to Tampa, including an evacuation in a worst-case scenario.
- A four-day mock hurricane drill was held in May featuring a pretend major storm striking the Tampa area during the second day of the convention. Under that scenario, planners cancelled.

Obama, Romney deadlocked in new poll

U.S. President Barack Obama closes his umbrella as he boards Air Force One before his departure from Nellis Air Force Base in Las Vegas on Wednesday. A new AP-GfK poll shows Obama and Mitt Romney locked in a statistical tie, despite the Republican challenger's recent choice of conservative Rep. Paul Ryan as his running mate. With less than three months remaining before the Nov. 6 election, 47 per cent of registered voters said they planned to back Obama and Vice-President Joe Biden, while 46 per cent favoured Romney and Ryan. That's not much changed from a June AP-GfK survey, when the split was 47 per cent for the president to 44 per cent for Romney. DAVID BECKER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Facebook

Probation given for online threats against Obama

A Florida man has been sentenced to three years' probation for posting threats against U.S. President Barack Obama on Facebook in February. U.S. District Judge Marcia Cooke ruled Wednesday that Joaquin Serrapio, 21, had acted wrongly but there was no evidence he intended to carry out the threats. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rape controversy

Ryan urged Akin to drop out of race

The U.S. congressman under fire for making comments about "legitimate rape" and pregnancy said Wednesday that Republican presidential challenger Mitt Romney's running mate, Rep. Paul Ryan, personally pleaded with him to leave a crucial Missouri Senate race, but the advice went nowhere. Rep. Todd Akin insisted he's in the race to stay, saying "this is not about my ego." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Fort Hood shooting

Suspect's beard to be forcibly shaved

A judge has the right to order an Army psychiatrist charged in the 2009 Fort Hood shooting rampage to be forcibly shaved of his beard before his murder trial, military attorneys told an appeals court Wednesday.

The attorneys, in a document filed on behalf of Col. Gregory Gross, contend that forcibly shaving Maj. Nidal Hasan would not violate the Muslim's religious freedoms.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S. Maj. Nidal Hasan at the San Antonio to Bell County Jail.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Found body parts

Dead woman had planned to leave the country

A single mother of three whose body parts were found scattered in Toronto-area waterways had told neighbours she was planning to return to her native China.

Guang Hua Liu, 41, was reported missing on Aug. 11, one day after her friends dropped her off in front of a now-defunct spa she used to own called Forget Me Not Health Centre in east Toronto.

Jong Soon Suh, the owner of a dry-cleaning business located in the same building for 18 years, said the former business owner at the spa's location told her Liu was planning to leave Canada just months after opening the spa because her former husband had decided to relocate to China for work.

Suh also said that she had become aware of Liu taking over the property in mid-May and was concerned with the spa because she never saw any customers enter and the front window was covered.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Youth programs

Government focuses funds on crime prevention

Ontario is bolstering crime-prevention programs with a focus on youth — to the tune of $20 million — in an effort to get guns off the streets by trying to prevent kids from turning to crime in the first place.

A plan to expand summer-job programs and add more youth outreach workers was announced Tuesday. The multimillion-dollar investment comes on the heels of two deadly public shootings this summer in Toronto.

Community Safety Minister Madeleine Meilleur said the government will be taking proceeds of crime and funnelling that money into crime-prevention programs in priority communities in the province.

"Crime prevention is only one part of the youth action plan," she said at the announcement Wednesday. "But it is a critical part because it stops bad choices before they are made."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Fork removed from man's stomach, 10 years later

Tough to swallow. Plastic utensil was lodged in the 40-year-old British man's small intestine for a decade, surgeon calls the case 'anything but routine'

Lee Gardner had forgotten swallowing a white plastic fork 10 years ago when he went to the hospital this month coughing up blood.

But there it was, on camera, as Dr. Hanif Shiwani examined the baffled 40-year-old from South Yorkshire, U.K.

"The handle of the fork was in the duodenum," Shiwani told the Star on Wednesday. "The prong part was in the stomach."

There it had lain, 23 centimetres of hard plastic stuck at the entrance to the small intestine, for a decade.

"I can't believe it. I have never had any problems with my stomach, except once a couple of years ago I remember thinking I felt like something had lodged when I bent over awkwardly," Gardner told the hospital.

It was only when Shiwani looked inside his gut and saw a fork that Gardner said he "remembered accidentally swallowing one years and years ago."

What was particularly unusual was that it had been forgotten.

Quoted

"I have never had any problems with my stomach, except once a couple of years ago I remember thinking I felt something had lodged when I bent over, akwardly."

Lee Gardner, who recently had a plastic fork removed from his stomach after barely noticing it for 10 years

"It hadn't been giving him any symptoms," said Shiwani, until the prongs started wiggling their way into Gardner's stomach lining and gouging blood vessels.

Shiwani performed the 45-minute operation at Barnsley General Hospital, South Yorkshire, where he is a consulting surgeon.

The case is anything but routine. Shiwani could find only four other cases in medical journals of an object so large spending so long inside a person.

He's looking forward to adding to the medical literature with this one, particularly as Gardner has made a full recovery.

The blackened and stained fork, now missing a tine, sits in a cupboard at the hospital.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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We're gonna need a bigger boat

Good Hope Cannery sport-fishing guide Tyler Mills, left, and tourist Deborah Whitman-Perry of Newmarket, Ont., pose with a record-breaking 83.3-pound Chinook salmon caught near Rivers Inlet, B.C., on Sunday. The fish was released to fight another day.

GOOD HOPE CANNERY/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Outbreak. Superbug contained in U.S. hospital

Over six frightening months, a deadly germ untreatable by most antibiotics spread in the U.S.'s leading research hospital. Pretty soon, a patient per week was catching the bug. Scientists at the National Institute of Health locked down patients, cleaned with bleach, even ripped out plumbing — and still the germ persisted.

By the end, 18 people harboured the dangerous germ, and six died of bloodstream infections from it. Another five made it through the outbreak only to die from the diseases that brought them to NIH's world-famous campus in the first place.

It took gene detectives teasing apart the bacteria's DNA to solve the germ's wily spread, a CSI-like saga with lessons for all hospitals. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Preventable death

99,000

Infections at health-care facilities are one of the leading causes of preventable death, claiming an estimated 99,000 lives a year.

Charged. Man accused of molesting passenger

A passenger on a U.S. domestic flight dozed off wearing headphones and awoke to find the hands of the stranger seated next to her inside her blouse and shorts, federal prosecutors said Wednesday.

In a criminal complaint, the U.S. attorney for New Jersey charged Bawer Aksal with sexual abuse.

Prosecutors said Askal, a Turkish national with U.S. citizenship, was sitting in the middle seat on United Airlines Flight 306 Newark, N.J. from Phoenix, Ariz., on Monday night when he allegedly abused the woman, who was sitting in the window seat.

The woman, whose name is being withheld by prosecutors because of the nature of the charges, told authorities she woke up to find the man had one of his hands inside her shirt touching her breasts and the other in her shorts molesting her, according to the complaint. Aksal, 48, was breathing heavily and repeatedly asked the woman to kiss him, it says.

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A police officer uses his binoculars to check the Turkish border in Likofito village, northern Greece. Greece launched an aggressive campaign this month to try to seal its 200-kilometre northeastern border, as it faces a debilitating financial crisis that has caused a swell in joblessness and a surge in racist attacks against immigrants, mostly from Afghanistan and Pakistan. NIKOLAS GIAKOUMIDIS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Greece rounds up illegal immigrants, tries to seal border

Strong criticism.
Human-rights groups and local officials allege racial profiling and police brutality

Border police jeeps hurtle along hot, dusty tracks past potato fields on their way to the river that marks the Greek-Turkish border. Sirens blaring, the convoys have been repelling wave after wave of migrants.

Greece's remote Evros region has turned into Europe's main battleground against illegal immigration. More than two-thirds of people making the clandestine journey into the European Union pass through here from neighbouring Turkey.

Greece launched an aggressive campaign this month to try to seal its 200-kilometre northeastern border, as it faces a debilitating financial crisis that has caused a swell in joblessness and a surge in racist attacks against immigrants with dark skin.

The police operation has brought nearly 2,000 additional border guards to the Turkish frontier previously manned by about 500 officers. They fanned out with dogs, night vision equipment and flat-bottomed boats for 24-hour patrols of the Evros River that forms a natural border. At least 21 people have drowned or died of exposure crossing the river this year, while several have been listed as missing.

In Athens, the operation is being bolstered by mass roundups of suspected illegal immigrants. In the first week of the crackdown in early August, police said they apprehended nearly 7,000 people for identification checks. Nearly 1,700 were slated for deportation.

Anwar, a 22-year-old man from Bangladesh, walked across the border. He said he is looking for police so he can turn himself in. It's a well-worn ploy: Migrants have actively tried to get themselves taken to detention centres near Athens, assuming they will be released due to overcrowding and allowed to blend into the chaotic capital.

Resident reacts

"As long as people know they can make it here and eventually live freely, they will keep coming.... Nothing will stop them."
Christos Kyriakidis,
a 63-year-old resident in the Evros region

Now, however, authorities are determined to swiftly deport illegal migrants they round up.

The government insists the operation is working, reporting a drop in illegal border crossings by around 90 per cent in the first week.

Greece is a member of Europe's passport-free Schengen agreement but shares no borders with any of the other 25 member states. That has meant hundreds of thousands of irregular immigrants have been unable to cross into other European countries, trapping them in limbo in Athens and other cities, typically in slum conditions.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Illegal immigrants stand behind a fence at a detention centre in Filakio village, northern Greece, near the border with Turkey.
NIKOLAS GIAKOUMIDIS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Illegal crossings

- In a recent pre-dawn operation, authorities using thermal-imaging cameras spotted a group of about 60 illegal immigrants on the Turkish side of the Evros River. Officers used spotlights, sirens and loud speakers to deter them from crossing, although 15 immigrants still made it over to a river islet in a no man's land and were arrested.
- Uniformed police officers from 25 countries are already helping Greece guard the Evros River as part of the European Union's border protection agency, Frontex.
- Greek police figures show more than 21,000 illegal migrants were arrested in the first six months of 2012 after crossing over from Turkey, with nearly all — 20,841 — caught along the northeastern land border rather than on one of the many Aegean islands near the Turkish coast. The figures show a nearly 29 per cent increase from the same period last year.
- Afghans currently make up the highest number of people crossing illegally, followed by Pakistanis, Bangladeshis, and an increasing number of people from war-ravaged Syria, according to the border protection agency.

Bailout talks

Greek PM seeking more time

Greece needs more time to implement tough financial reforms and spending cuts, Prime Minister Antonis Samaras said as he begins a series of top-level European meetings to discuss his country's international bailout.

Jean-Claude Juncker, head of the Eurogroup representing finance ministers of 17 countries that use the euro, arrived in Athens Wednesday to meet with Samaras. The Greek premier then heads to Berlin to meet with German Chancellor Angela Merkel and to Paris to see French President Francois Hollande.

Greece is dependent on two rescue loan packages from other eurozone countries and the International Monetary Fund, to keep it from bankruptcy and potentially having to leave the euro. In return, it has to impose strict austerity measures, including cuts to salaries and pensions and repeated tax hikes. But Athens has faltered in the speed and effectiveness of implementing the reforms, fuelling impatience by its creditors.

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What's in that feedbag?

Israel. Biblical park outfits donkeys with wireless routers

It was nothing like this 3,000 years ago.

An Israeli attraction meant to immerse tourists in an authentic, ancient biblical experience has outfitted its donkeys with wireless routers.

At the historical park of Kfar Kedem in northern Israel, visitors decked out in biblical robes and headdresses ride donkeys through the rolling hills of the Galilee, learning how people lived in Old Testament times.

Now they can also surf the web while touring the land of the Bible on one of the oldest forms of transportation. A device slung around the donkey's neck like a feedbag is actually a Wi-Fi router.

The park's manager, Menachem Goldberg, said Wednesday he hopes the melding of old and new will connect the younger generation to ancient Galilee life while allowing them to share, tweet and snap the experience instantly to friends. He played down the notion that 21st-century tourists have grown addicted to being online at all times.

"You take some pictures, you want to change your picture on Facebook — you can do it," Goldberg said.

Visitor Peter Scherr accessed the Internet while touring the Galilee hills to do some donkey fact-finding with his family.

"It has been used as a working animal for 5,000 years," said the New York native, reading from a Wikipedia page on his iPad.

"There are more than 40 million donkeys in the world. That's a lot of donkeys!"

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quote

"I don't miss any news. I send pictures back to my family while I'm having fun on the donkeys."

Visitor Peter Scherr

American tourist Ella uses an iPad while riding a Wi-Fi-outfitted donkey led by her brother Aaron, in Kfar Kedem, a biblical reenactment park in the Galilee, northern Israel, on Wednesday. ARIEL SCHALIT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Animal news

Bao Bao THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

One of world's oldest giant pandas dies at 34

The Berlin zoo says Bao Bao, who was given to West Germany by China in 1980 and was one of the world's oldest giant pandas, has died. The zoo said the 34-year-old bear died early Wednesday in his enclosure after his health deteriorated over the last several months.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Disappearing act

A well-known biologist in Newfoundland and Labrador says gannets who should be nesting at Cape St. Mary's have abandoned their chicks for cooler waters. Guides at the popular bird sanctuary noticed the phenomenon earlier this month when the seabirds suddenly disappeared.

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Japan PM, protesters remain far apart

Safety concerns. Despite meeting, weekly mass rallies likely to continue

Japan's Prime Minister Yoshihiko Noda, right, talks with the leaders of the anti-nuclear protest in Tokyo on Wednesday. KYODO NEWS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Japan's prime minister met for the first time with leaders of weekly anti-nuclear protests Wednesday but rejected their demand that two recently restarted nuclear plants should be shut again.

Tens of thousands of people have been gathering every Friday night outside Prime Minister Yoshihiko Noda's office compound to protest against nuclear power because of safety concerns set off by last year's Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear crisis.

The 11 protest leaders were allowed into the complex for the first time since they started chanting anti-nuclear slogans outside the tightly guarded building in April.

"When the majority of the general public opposed the restart, you forced it by trampling down on us. It was ridiculous and outrageous," protester Misao Redwolf told Noda as she sat across from him. "We will continue our protests as long as you keep ignoring our voices."

Noda initially called the demonstrations "big noise," triggering criticism. He promised the protesters on Wednesday he would listen to people's views and reflect them in policy decisions.

But he did not accept their demands that his government shut down two reactors that were restarted in July and keep the rest of the country's 48 reactors shuttered.

He has repeatedly insisted that nuclear plants need to be restarted to avoid power shortages that would impact Japan's economy.

The protests started with dozens of people in April and have become mass demonstrations. The protesters say their peak turnout was as many as 200,000 people from around the country, while unofficial police estimates cited by media say 10,000 to 20,000 gather weekly.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Protest plans

- The protesters said meeting the prime minister was not their goal and they'd continue to gather until their demands are met.

Paralympic torch relay gets a sky-high start

Former solider and marathon runner Karl Hinett holds the English Paralympic flame at the top of Scafell Pike in Cumbria, England, on Wednesday. The torch relay began yesterday with scouts lighting flames on the highest peaks in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. The London Paralympic Games will begin on Aug. 29, when athletes with disabilities will compete in 20 different sports.

JOE GIDDENS/LOCOG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sept. 11 launch.

Navy SEAL to publish his account of bin Laden raid

A first-hand account of the U.S. navy SEAL mission that killed Osama bin Laden is coming out Sept. 11.

Dutton, an imprint of Penguin Group, announced Wednesday that Mark Owen's No Easy Day will "set the record straight" on the raid in Pakistan in May 2011.

Mark Owen is a pseudonym for the combat veteran who was one of the first fighters to enter bin Laden's third-floor hideout and also witnessed his death, according to Dutton. The co-author, journalist Kevin Maurer, has worked on four previous books.

One senior military official said the manuscript was not shared with special-operations officials to check for possible disclosure of classified information.

The official spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to discuss the vetting of classified information.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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GROWING DREAMS

Teriano, a member of the Maasai tribe of Kenya, has been studying in Toronto for four years. She plans to return to Africa, where she has big dreams of helping her people.

At first glance, Teriano doesn't seem much different from any of the thousands of other Ryerson University students. She wears the standard jeans-and-windbreaker uniform, spends most of her time studying and posts pictures of outings and friends on Facebook.

But, in fact, Teriano, a fourth-year social work student, has a remarkable story that shows how the smallest act can have a huge impact.

Teriano was born a member of the Maasai tribe in southern Kenya and immediately promised in marriage to a man who was already 27 years old. "My mother married the same way, my grandma and everybody else. It was just normal to be booked for marriage and to get married at 13 or 14," she explains. "It almost happened to me."

It didn't because when she was four years old an Australian family sponsored her through World Vision. That meant that after she had completed primary school, she was able to attend high school, and then college for a year in Nairobi. "No girl in my village had ever gone to college or university," she recalls. While her father was baffled by her ambition and bound by the marriage deal he had made, Teriano convinced him to break it and to let her go.

She came to Canada four years ago and plans to stay to finish a master's degree. And her dreams keep growing along with her horizons. For example, she wants to help women in her village start business co-operatives so they can support themselves and their families. She would like to set up a community fund to enable other youth in her village — particularly girls — to go to high school and college. She wants to find out how the Maasai, who raise livestock, can become more efficient farmers.

"I thought, maybe I could talk to farmers in Canada and ask, 'How do you do it?' Information like that could transform our community."

A year and a half ago, Teriano visited her village in Kenya. Four hundred people came to a celebration to honour her. She was amazed. "There were speeches. People blessed me, and said they admired me. Young people said, 'We can do it because you did it.'

"There had been some families in my village who said, 'I will never take my girls to school, only my boys.' That day, I saw their girls in school and thought, 'Yes!'"

The experience made her think: "Sometimes you don't know the impact you are making, just by doing things. Sometimes actions really speak."

How true.

Right-to-die advocate's 'living nightmare' ends

Euthanasia debate. Tony Nicklinson's death from pneumonia comes a week after British court rejected his right-to-die request

Tony Nicklinson
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Tony Nicklinson, paralyzed and unable to speak, found life so unbearable he wanted to die. On Wednesday, the 58-year-old Briton got his wish.

His family said he died at home of pneumonia.

In January, Nicklinson asked the High Court to declare that any doctor who killed him with his consent would not be charged with murder. Last week, the court rejected his request, a decision that Nicklinson said had left him "devastated and heartbroken."

Nicklinson was a former corporate manager and rugby player who suffered a stroke in 2005 that left him with locked-in syndrome. He was unable to speak or move below his neck and required constant care. Nicklinson communicated mostly by blinking, although his mind had remained unaffected and his condition was not terminal.

Nicklinson had argued that British law violated his right to "private and family life" as guaranteed by the European Convention on Human Rights, on the ground that being able to choose how to die is a matter of personal autonomy. He had previously described his life as "a living nightmare."

One of his daughters said on Twitter that before he died, Nicklinson had asked them to tweet "Goodbye world the time has come, I had some fun."

Police said they would not be investigating Nicklinson's death. "We can confirm he passed away," a police spokesman said on customary condition of anonymity. "His death certificate has been signed by a doctor, so it is not a matter for Wiltshire Police or the coroner." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

German circumcision debate reignites

Jewish groups increased pressure on the German government Wednesday to speed up the passage of new legislation protecting the practice of ritual circumcision after a doctor filed a complaint with prosecutors accusing a rabbi of causing a child bodily harm.

A debate in Germany over the Jewish and Muslim practice of ritual circumcision started after a regional court in Cologne ruled in June that the practice amounted to causing criminal bodily harm to a child.

It calmed after the German government pledged to draft new legislation protecting the practice, but flared again this week after a doctor filed the latest complaint with prosecutors in the southern city of Hof.

Even though any German can file such a complaint and it is then up to prosecutors to decide whether to press charges, the Conference of European Rabbis said the legal move showed the need for "immediate action" from lawmakers in Berlin.

"This latest development in Hof, Germany, is yet another grave affront to religious freedom and underlines the urgent need for the German government to expedite the process of ensuring that the fundamental rights of minority communities are protected," said Pinchas Goldschmidt, head of the European Orthodox group and also chief rabbi of Moscow. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Defending Jewish ritual

The Simon Wiesenthal Center in Los Angeles pledged "all necessary and legal backing" to defend the practice of ritual circumcision of young boys, which is central to the Jewish faith.

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BONUS OFFERS & MORE INSIDE

Alleged planner of nun's murder set free in Brazil

Rainforest activism. Rancher was convicted in 2010 of ordering U.S. woman's death

Brazil's Supreme Court has ordered the release of an Amazon rancher charged with being one of the masterminds of the 2005 killing of American nun and activist Dorothy Stang.

The Supreme Court ruled Tuesday night that Regivaldo Galvao has the right to remain free pending the outcome of his appeal process.

In 2010, a jury found Regivaldo Galvao guilty of ordering Stang's death and sentenced him to 30 years in jail. But he was freed on appeal.

He was imprisoned one year later after a Para state court ruled that he had to start serving his sentence before his appeal process had run its course. Galvao was expected to be released later Wednesday.

The late nun Dorothy Stang
CARLOS SILVA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/FILE

Also convicted of ordering Stang's murder is Vitalmiro Moura, who is serving a 30-year jail term.

Stang was born in Dayton, Ohio, and spent three decades trying to preserve the rain forest and defending the rights of poor settlers who confronted powerful ranchers seeking their lands in the Amazon's wild frontier.

The northern Brazilian state of Para, where Stang was gunned down with six, close-range shots from a revolver, is notorious for land-related violence, contract killings, slave-like labour conditions and environmental destruction.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Fight over lucrative land

- In Brazil, killings over land are common and seldom punished, as powerful landowners clash with farmers and others for control of lucrative farming and logging land.
- According to the watchdog group Catholic Land Pastoral, more than 1,150 rural activists have been slain in Brazil over the past 20 years.

New Jerusalem. Teachers not allowed in Mexico's walled community

Adherents of a religious sect in western Mexico are physically blocking school teachers from entering their walled community, setting up one of the most high-profile confrontations between religious and civil authorities in Mexico since the 1930s.

Local officials in the western state of Michoacan said Wednesday it may be time to call in a large-scale police operation to enforce the right to schooling in a community that has largely ruled itself according to what it considers Biblical guidelines for almost 40 years. The New Jerusalem community prohibits formal schooling, television, radio, and modern music, dress and fashion.

Formative years

"It is surprising that they want to impose beliefs, not a religion, on grade-school children in their formative stage."
Mexican Bishops Council, in a statement

"I think the next step is to go in and enforce the rule of law," said Efrain Barrera, spokesman for the township of Turicato, in western Michoacan state, where the sect's walled-off compound is located.

Under Mexican law, grade-school education is compulsory, and Mexico's National Human Rights Commission and the Roman Catholic Church said Tuesday that the refusal to allow classes in the town of New Jerusalem is a violation of children's human rights.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Opposition party

Jamaica lawmaker steps down after corruption charges

A Jamaican opposition lawmaker charged with perverting the course of justice is stepping aside from a party post. Jamaica Labor Party legislator Daryl Vaz announced Wednesday that he is taking a leave of absence as the opposition's spokesman on information and communications technology issues. Vaz is accused of breaching a law while intervening in a traffic violation involving a businessman friend.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Scope over civilians

Military law ruled unconstitutional in Mexico

Mexico's Supreme Court on Tuesday declared unconstitutional a key portion of a military law that has broadened the influence of military courts and angered civilian victims. The ruling said a provision of the code that claims authority over crimes committed by soldiers on duty violates a federal law stipulating military courts should not expand their scope over civilians affected by a case.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Leftover plutonium

Activists question nuclear-weapon-waste plans

Nuclear watchdogs are questioning a proposal to ship tons of plutonium to New Mexico, including the cores of nuclear warheads that would be dismantled at an aging and structurally questionable lab atop a major earthquake fault zone. Opponents are voicing their opposition at a series of public hearings that opened this week on how best to dispose of the plutonium.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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BONUS OFFERS & MORE INSIDE

Protesters demonstrate outside the court in Ventersdorp, South Africa, on Wednesday at the sentencing of the killer of right-wing leader Eugene Terreblanche. Chris Mahlangu was given a life sentence for the 2010 murder of Terreblanche. DENIS FARRELL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Farmworker gets life sentence for killing white supremacist

South Africa. White protesters oppose Mahlangu supporters outside courtroom

A black farmworker was sentenced to life in prison Wednesday for the brutal murder of South African white-supremacist leader Eugene Terreblanche in a case that has been a source of racial tension in the city of Ventersdorp.

About 100 protesters sang anti-white songs outside the courtroom in the city just west of Johannesburg to support 30-year-old Chris Mahlangu, who had pleaded guilty but argued that he acted in self-defence in what the judge found was a violent dispute over wages.

They were opposed by 20 white protesters who carried the dummy of a black man with a rope around his neck and a sign that said: "Hang Mahlangu."

As Mahlangu was leaving the court, the protesters tied the effigy to a pick-up truck and drove around the black crowd.

Mahlangu was found guilty for beating Terreblanche, 69, to death with an axe in April 2010 after breaking into his house with a teenage accomplice. Mahlangu said he feels he did no wrong by ridding the world of a man some called a monster.

The second man

A second man, Patrick Ndlovu, who was a teenager at the time of the killing two years ago, was sentenced to a two-year prison sentence, which means he goes free.

- Ndlovu was found guilty of breaking and entering with intent to steal.

The judge had rejected a defence argument that Mahlangu had been sodomized by Terreblanche and acted in self-defence. Mahlangu also claimed that Terreblanche infected him with HIV.

Zola Majavu, Mahlangu's lawyer, said on Wednesday that they are planning to appeal both the court's findings and the sentence.

After the sentencing, the Young Communist League of South Africa released a statement calling the judgment racially biased.

"Eugene Terreblanche was a white supremacist who made no qualms about his lack of love and respect for the black Africans and still believed in white supremacy and black oppression. How is it that the issue of self-defence is not taken serious?" said the statement.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Zellers layoffs. Unionized workers hit Target office to deliver petition to execs

Unionized workers delivered a blistering attack on Target and corporations like it on Wednesday, at a protest in front of the company's new Canadian headquarters in Mississauga.

"We need to fight back against this corporate greed. We need to build a huge movement to take back this country for workers," said Motilall Sarjoo, president of the Mississauga Brampton Labour Council.

Sarjoo was addressing a crowd of about 120 people, including union members and leaders of the United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW), the Canadian Auto Workers (CAW), the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE), the Ontario Federation of Labour (OFL) and NDP MP Wayne Marston.

The group had gathered to deliver a petition to Target executives, asking them to respect the seniority and benefits of Zellers employees who are being laid off as Target takes over Zellers leases across Canada as part of a $1.8-billion deal with HBC.

Target, a discount retailer based in Minneapolis, plans to open its first stores in the GTA in 2013.

Target has maintained that it has no responsibility towards the Zellers employees, because it bought only Zellers leases from HBC. Citing its status as a private company, HBC has repeatedly declined to comment.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Let go

27,300

An estimated 27,300 employees are being let go as a result of the transaction. About 15,000 of them work in stores being converted to Target stores.

U.S. outbreak

West Nile cases four times higher for mid-August

The current West Nile outbreak is one of the largest in the U.S., with four times the usual number of cases for this time of year, federal health officials said Wednesday. So far, 1,118 illnesses have been reported, about half of them in Texas. In an average year, fewer than 300 cases are reported by mid-August. There have also been 41 deaths this year, Centers for Disease Control said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kenya

Nearly 50 killed in attack over land

Hundreds of farmers attacked a village, killing at least 48 people in southeastern Kenya in an escalation of ongoing clashes between the farming and pastoral communities over land and resources, an official said Wednesday.

Some people were burned to death in their houses, while others were hacked to death or shot with arrows, said Tana River region police chief Joseph Kavoo.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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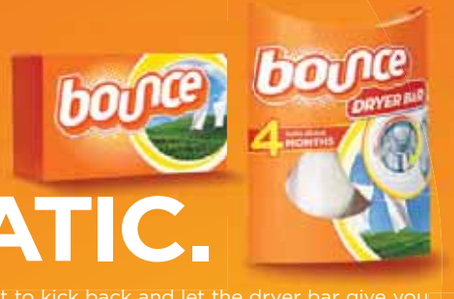

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Chinese activists return home

Disputed land.
Homecoming isn't likely to end feud; Chinese have vowed to make another attempt to occupy islands

Hong Kong gave a hero's welcome home Wednesday to activists who landed on disputed islands and whose video of their scuffles with Japanese police will likely aggravate nationalist tensions further.

The seven activists were part of a 14-person group that managed to evade the Japanese Coast Guard in a rusty fishing boat to reach the islands a week ago. The group included two reporters from Phoenix TV, which broadcast video for the first time of the activists' desperate confrontation with Japanese officers as they landed on the barren islands.

Known as Senkaku in Japan and Diaoyu in China, the islands are surrounded by rich fishing grounds and may also be near underwater natural-gas deposits. They're controlled by Japan but also claimed by China and Taiwan.

In the video, six of the activists are seen clambering over the rocky shoreline. The group wades ashore, advancing toward several dozen Japanese police officers wearing riot gear. One of them waves China's national flag as the officers watch. But as they try to go further, the police block the way. Two of them make a run for it but are tackled by the officers.

The whole group was arrested and quickly expelled from Japan in a move seen as an attempt to soothe tensions. But anti-Japan sentiment flared up anyway in China, where thousands protested last weekend in 10 cities, with some carrying banners demanding Japan give up the islands.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Chinese activist Henry Wong Fahman, centre, shakes hands with supporters on arrival in Hong Kong Wednesday. A group of Hong Kong activists deported from Japan after landing on disputed islands in the East China Sea returned home in their fishing boat to a hero's welcome. KIN CHEUNG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News agency denies spying claims after journo quits

Xinhua Ottawa bureau chief Dacheng Zhang takes video footage on Wednesday during an announcement by Prime Minister Stephen Harper in the Northwest Territories. ADRIAN WYLD/ THE CANADIAN PRESS

A Canadian journalist says he quit working for China's news agency because it wanted him to spy on the Dalai Lama in Ottawa.

But the Ottawa bureau chief of China's Xinhua news agency dismissed that claim as "Cold War" ideology.

Ottawa-based freelance journalist and author Mark Bourrie makes the allegation against the Xinhua news service in an article published in Ottawa Magazine, and in an interview with The Canadian Press.

The matter will likely revive debate around the long-standing issue of whether Xinhua is an intelligence-gathering front for the Chinese government instead of a legitimate news service.

Bourrie, 55, said he resigned in April after working for two years for Xinhua in Ottawa because its Ottawa bureau chief, Dacheng Zhang, wanted him to use his parliamentary press pass to gain access to the Dalai Lama's final news conference, and turn over all notes and materials without writing a story.

Bourrie says the agency collected hours of video and other notes of the Dalai Lama's most recent trip to Ottawa on April 27 and 28, but it wasn't interested in publishing a story on the Tibetan spiritual leader. The Chinese government considers the Dalai Lama to be its enemy.

Zhang, who is currently travelling with other Canadian journalists on Prime Minister Stephen Harper's annual tour of the Arctic, denied Bourrie's claim on Wednesday.

Zhang told The Canadian Press that Xinhua's policy is to "cover public events by public means" and his bureau's job is to cover news events and file the stories to Xinhua's editing rooms. It is up to them to decide how and what to publish, Zhang said, calling those decisions internal matters.

Bourrie said that Xinhua's journalistic access to Parliament Hill and other Ottawa events should be reviewed by the parliamentary press gallery because the credentials it has issued are being used to gather information for a foreign government, not solely for media reports.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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StatsCan. Retail sales down in June, against experts' expectations

Retail sales in Canada fell in June, widely missing expectations of a small gain as increasingly cautious shoppers pulled back on a number of fronts and overnight trips to the U.S. hit a record high as higher duty-free exemptions kicked in.

Statistics Canada reported Wednesday that seasonally adjusted retail sales declined 0.4 per cent to $38.7 billion in June from the month earlier, more than offsetting a gain in May and frustrating economists who had expected a 0.1 per cent increase.

The biggest declines were felt by retailers who sell general merchandise, gasoline, building materials and garden equipment.

"The surprise drop in June sales was broad-based, suggesting households are becoming a little more cautious, though cross-border shopping may have played a role as well," BMO Capital Markets senior economist Benjamin Reitzes said.

Canadians made a record 1.9 million overnight trips to the U.S. in June, including 1.2 million trips by car — a 10 per cent increase month over month. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Stateside shopping

1.9M

Canadians made a record 1.9 million overnight trips to the U.S. in June

Market Minute

DOLLAR 100.87¢ (-0.17¢)

TSX 12,118.99 (+2.06)

OIL $96.99 US (+15¢)

GOLD $1,642.20 (-70¢)

Natural gas: $2.826 US (+5.1¢)
Dow Jones: 13,172.76 (-30.82)

Loonie not biggest problem facing exports, Carney says

Bank of Canada governor Mark Carney, left, and CAW president Ken Lewenza shake hands at the CAW convention in Toronto on Wednesday. MICHELLE SIU/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Manufacturing. Strong dollar explains only about 20 per cent of our poor export performance, Bank of Canada chief tells CAW

Don't look to the loonie as the biggest problem facing Canadian exports, Bank of Canada governor Mark Carney said Wednesday in his first-ever public address to organized labour.

The central banker's speech to a gathering of the Canadian Auto Workers' union was not only Carney's maiden public address to a labour group, but also the first time any Bank of Canada governor has made such an overture.

Carney addressed a persistent complaint of those who put the blame for weak exports squarely on the shoulders of the strong Canadian dollar. The manufacturing sector and auto industry have been particularly hard hit in recent years.

He noted Canada's export performance was the second-worst in the G20 over the last decade, with only nine per cent of exports going to fast-growing emerging markets such as China and India.

The structure of the Canadian economy, "unfortunately, is too north-south, not enough east-west in a global sense," Carney said during a media conference after his speech.

While CAW president Ken Lewenza conceded that the dollar isn't the only factor affecting auto manufacturing, he maintained that the loonie is more significant than Carney suggested. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quoted

"The high-paying manufacturing jobs of the future will be in companies ... that are fully engaged in the global economy."

Bank of Canada governor Mark Carney

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Tech. Apple's $2.5B patent lawsuit against Samsung goes to jurors

Nine Silicon Valley residents who presided over the epic three-week patent trial between smartphone titans Apple and Samsung Electronics began deliberating the multibillion-dollar case Wednesday.

Apple is demanding Samsung pay $2.5 billion US for allegedly stealing the design technology of the iPad and iPhone to create illegal knockoffs. Samsung counters that Apple stole its technology and is demanding $399 million.

During closing arguments Tuesday, a lawyer for Apple said that Samsung was having a "crisis of design" after the launch of the iPhone, and executives with the South Korean company were determined to illegally cash in on the success of the revolutionary device.

Samsung's lawyer said that the technology giant was simply and legally giving consumers what they want: smartphones with big screens. Lawyers finished their closing arguments late Tuesday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Apple headquarters in Cupertino, Calif. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Workers. Young and old spend same amount of time job-hunting: Study

Older unemployed workers spend as much time looking for a job as younger ones, according to a new Statistics Canada study.

The agency says unemployed people aged 55 to 64 spent an average of 13 hours a week looking for work — the same as those between the ages of 20 and 34.

But the study found key differences in the way each age group looked for jobs.

Older people were more likely to look at job ads and less likely to use the Internet than younger job hunters.

Younger people were more likely to contact employers directly as their main method of finding a job. Both age groups turned to employment agencies in similar numbers.

The study also found both older and younger unemployed workers were equally willing to look for a job outside their community. Older workers were more willing to work for 10 per cent less money than younger workers.

Study author Andre Bernard said there are several reasons older workers are more willing to work for less money.

Seeking employment

- The length of the unemployment spell didn't change people's job-search habits.
- Old and young alike spent the same amount of time looking for a job after 24 weeks of unemployment as they did during their first eight weeks of joblessness.
- Older workers were more likely to be out of work longer than younger ones, Bernard said.

"We know that older workers tend to have higher wages, just because of experience. It could just reflect that," he said Wednesday. "They have the possibility to transition to retirement. Maybe they have more assets accumulated, lower expenses for older individuals because they are less likely to have dependents at home.

"But it could also reflect a more difficult job market for older unemployed (workers)."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Sinking solar industry dims China's tech hopes

Workers install solar panels at the construction site of a high-concentration photovoltaic (HCPV) power plant in Hami city, China. Chinese solar-panel makers that grew quickly over the past decade are suffering big losses due to slumping global sales and a price war that threatens an industry seen by Communist officials as a role model for transforming China into a technology leader. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

$9-million profit

Facebook co-founder discloses share of sales

Facebook co-founder Dustin Moskovitz shed 450,000 shares of Facebook in the past few days for proceeds of about $9 million US — a tiny chunk of his total stake.

Moskovitz was Mark Zuckerberg's Harvard roommate when they founded Facebook in 2004. He disclosed in a regulatory filing late Tuesday that he sold the shares on Friday, Monday and Tuesday in blocks of 150,000.

He sold the shares for $18.79 to $20.08 each for proceeds of nearly $9 million.

Moskovitz, 28, left Facebook in 2008 and started Asana, whose software helps manage projects.

He did not sell any stock in Facebook's IPO. He still owns more than 133 million shares. Based on the filing, he could sell seven million more shares he converted from Class B to Class A.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Richmond Centre
Royal City Centre
Scottsdale Centre
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PLEASE DON'T LEAVE ME, NHL

HE SAYS...
John Mazerolle
metronews.ca/voices/he-says

The worst thing about the potential for a cancelled NHL season is that it lays bare my pathetic addiction. I'm hopelessly hooked on a league that doesn't care how I feel.

Can't you spare a hit or two for a guy down on his luck, NHL?

As I write, labour talks are ongoing. So maybe by the time you read this both sides will have already had an action-movie style "Not partners — friends!" handshake and will soon be enjoying Coca-Cola atop a hillside in perfect harmony. Somehow I doubt it.

NHL fan hardship

And the NHL is the only league where the referees rediscover the rule book every 10 years or so, as if it were an old wedding album. "Wow, I forgot about this thing!" they say as they blow the dust off.

It looks like the league is heading toward its third lockout in two decades, which will leave me in withdrawal — sad, shivering and holding my head in my oversized novelty hands.

The league can be a cold-hearted partner even when it's running smoothly. Your favourite team can let you down year after year, while teams in the Deep South win despite holding what appear to be Empty Seat Nights.

And the NHL is the only league where the referees rediscover the rule book every 10 years or so, as if it were an old wedding album. "Wow, I forgot about this thing!" they say as they blow the dust off.

But turning these labour disputes into some sort of twisted tradition is the cruellest cut of all.

There will be lots of detail-laden news articles — pity the poor reporters who chose sports so they wouldn't have to write phrases like 'collective bargaining' — but the facts don't really matter.

All we know is that Rich White Man No. 1 wants one thing and Rich White Man No. 2 wants another, and somewhere along the way somebody will say, "It's not about the money" and we'll laugh through our tears.

None of the players are using their sticks and jock straps to build makeshift bindles, and if the owners were to start living out of their vehicles they'd still be in nicer digs than my apartment. Catriona Le May Doan will not be walking among emaciated negotiators, asking us to donate. ("Some of them are so weak they haven't thrown a punch in months.")

Of course it's about the money.

What's worse, when my drug is back I will accept it without condition as soon as it's offered, like any true addict. The NHL's marketing campaign after the lost season could be "Welcome back, sucker!" and I'd say, "Awesome!"

And I won't even be able to give the NHL the middle finger, because my giant novelty hands don't bend that way.

I couldn't imagine living life without giant novelty hands. RICH LAM/GETTY IMAGES

For flippin' sakes! It's weigh-in time

GETTY IMAGES

Animal well-being

Animals weighed at annual check

It's time to find out which critter has been gorging.

Keepers at a London, U.K., zoo get out the scales for the annual animal weigh-in this week. Every one of the 16,000 or so animals, across 750 species, including penguins, meerkats, lions and owls, are put on the scales and measured, "to assess their health and behaviour," a spokesperson at the zoo says. METRO

Weigh-in weighed up

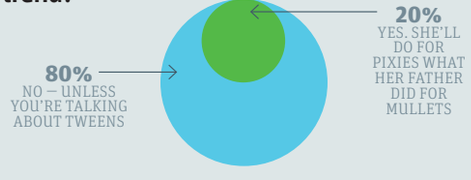
- **Worldwide database.** The measurements are recorded into the Zoological Information Management System. They can be shared with zoos worldwide, which zoologists use to compare data on endangered species.
- **What zoological director David Field says:** "This information helps us to monitor their health, their diets and their general well-being."

These pensive meerkats are certainly weighing in on London Zoo's annual animal audit. GETTY IMAGES

Metropolitan Panel

Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

Will Miley Cyrus' new shorter, blonder haircut start another wave of the pixie cut trend?



Twitter

@FakeMarkCohon: Not sure which is more terrifying... the thought of #Chavil producing music, or children?!

@jeffreyrickard: New Canadian power couple - Chavil.

@Ashemo: Chavil? Touche, Canada, touche.

@melanie_rae24: Shocked to hear that Chad Kroeger is marrying Avril Lavinge!!!

@LAnnetteOP: You guys are all being really mean about Avril marrying Chad Kroeger. 1. He has a REALLY nice house in Vancouver...Huh. That's all I've got.

@adammezail: avril lavigne and chad kroeger getting married is the worst thing to happen to canada since the vancouver riots

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Not just a couple of punks at The Cultch

Die Roten Punkte. Self-proclaimed 'best band in the world' brings their satirical performance to Vancouver

BACKSTAGE PASS
Graeme McRanor
vancouver@metronews.ca

Details

Die Roten Punkte performs from August 28 to September 2 at The Cultch.

- Tickets start at $17.
- All performances begin at 8 p.m.
- Visit TheCultch.com for more information.

Free Pussy Riot! You don't get to write that in a daily newspaper everyday.

I am, of course, referring to the feminist punk group that's made international headlines after three of its members were convicted of hooliganism after staging a performance protest against Vladimir Putin inside an Orthodox cathedral.

Last week they were each unjustly sentenced to two years in prison, which seems to indicate that it's safer to be part of a satirical punk band with less exaggerated politics.

And probably not based in Russia.

Die Roten Punkte fits the bill.

The self-proclaimed "best band in the world" (I thought that was Jack Black's band) kicks off The Cultch's 2012/13 season with Eurosmash!, a brand-new, shiny rock/punk/electronic show by Otto and Astrid Rot, a pair of squabbling German orphans who can't even agree on how their parents died. We know this: it was either at the jaws of a lion or under the wheels of a train.

"My first exposure to Die Roten Punkte was during their sold-out run of Kunst Rock (Art Rock) at the 2012 Vancouver Fringe Festival," says Cultch executive director Heather Redfern. "Like everyone else in attendance, I was blown away by their performance and knew I had to share it with Cultch patrons."

Expect big laughs from this musical comedy act that's played festivals around the world and picked up numerous awards along the way.

Quoted

"Like everyone else in attendance I was blown away by their performance and knew I had to share it with Cultch patrons."

Heather Redfern of Cultch, on seeing Die Roten Punkte for the first time.

Die Roten Punkte consists of orphans Otto and Astrid Rot. HANDOUT

2SCENE

On the web

Jimmy Kimmel moving into competition with Leno, Letterman; Nightline moving to later time.

Canada's music fans flock to Twitter after surprise 'Chavril' announcement

Celebrity union. Two of Canada's international music stars reveal engagement following six-month courtship

Nickelback frontman Chad Kroeger tells Hello! Canada magazine he fell for fellow rocker Avril Lavigne in Paris during work on her upcoming fifth studio album.

The Canadian music power duo shocked music fans and media outlets yesterday when they announced their engagement after an ultra-discreet six-month courtship.

In this week's issue of Hello! Canada, the two share their story and engagement photos, in which Lavigne is wearing a pear-shaped diamond ring.

Kroeger, who hails from Hanna, Alta., tells the magazine, "I knew I was falling for her. It was incredibly powerful and something I'll never forget."

The 37-year-old also says he feels "like the luckiest person alive."

The 27-year-old Lavigne of Napanee, Ont., says of Kroeger: "He makes me laugh every day. He takes care of me in every way and is extremely attentive."

News of their engagement has music fans abuzz on Twitter, where the two are trending with the hashtag #Chavril.

This will be the first marriage for Kroeger and the second for Lavigne, who filed for divorce from fellow Canuck rocker Deryck Whibley of Sum 41 in 2009 after three years of marriage.

Nickelback — which also includes Kroeger's brother, Mike, on bass, guitarist Ryan Peake and drummer Daniel Adair — was named group of the decade by Billboard magazine.

Their 2001 breakthrough hit How You Remind Me was the decade's top rock song, and their bestselling album is 2005's All the Right Reasons.

Lavigne got her breakthrough as a teen in 2002 with her debut album Let Go and the hit single, Complicated.

Despite Nickelback's monster popularity, the group also has a reputation as one of the most hated bands in music.

Last year, after they were invited to play at a Detroit Lions football game, an online petition protesting the performance drew more than 55,000 signatures.

Kroeger, however, says he only cares about making music for his fans.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Francois Marchand
@FMarchandVS
There's only one way this #Chavril wedding can happen: Grey Cup halftime show. With pyro.

Vicki Essex
@VickiEssex
Chad Kroger + Avril Lavigne = the musical stallion who will mount the world. #khalkroeger #chavril

Andrew Snowdon
@snobiwan
I am assuming that #Chavril is a super super joke. I am content to play along; it'll help me lose weight.

Jordan Bateman
@jordanbateman
I have serious concerns about our Canadian tabloid industry when #Chavril can exist for 6 months without us knowing.

The Boss is back in the windy city

Starz drama. Kelsey Grammer's political drama intensifies with health problems and rising competition

AMBER RAY
Metro New York

Chicago is Mayor Tom Kane's town. Portrayed with a commanding ferocity and effortless charisma by Kelsey Grammer, Kane plays the politics game better than anyone, sacrificing family and friends to retain his power on the Starz drama Boss. That's despite suffering from the neurological disease Lewy body dementia, though his condition is worsening as Season 2 began last Friday.

"Tom has discovered there are gaps in his life that maybe he would like to fill in, or at least try to," Grammer says. "He realizes that he's not a fully realized human being and only has so many avenues to explore to actually make that different; one being his (estranged) daughter, and even his (emotionally detached) wife."

Despite delivering a withering onscreen stare that real-life Chicago cops have told Grammer "is just like Mayor Daley," and Kane's penchant for dirty deeds, the actor insists "there is some humanity available to us to be explored" in the mayor.

Of course, the newspaper editor looking to expose Kane's corruption may not think so — but that's what makes this peek at backroom politics so dangerously appealing.

Cast additions:
Meet the new players in the Chicago power scene working with Mayor Kane in Season 2.
Sanaa Lathan as Mona Fredricks: "Mona is a very smart, politically savvy woman who grew up on the south side of Chicago," Lathan says. "She grew up in a community that was very disenfranchised. She pursued politics to be an advocate for the people in that community. Kane is really the only one who can do something about (the redevelopment of the neighborhood), so when she has the opportunity to work with him, she takes it."

Jonathan Groff as Ian Todd: "Ian Todd is one of the new employees of Mayor Kane," explains Groff. "Very ambitious, very smart, but very green. (He is) trying to get as close to Mayor Kane as he possibly can ... (while) holding onto deep, dark secrets at the same time."

Tip "T.I." Harris as Trey Rogers: "Trey is a very ambitious young man who comes from a hostile, hazardous environment, but he has plans to (expand) his influence into politics," Harris says.

"He feels that he could do just as good of a job as they can, and he has an interesting approach to it."

Kelsey Grammer stars in the Starz TV political drama Boss. GETTY IMAGES

'TV tourist' Ealy in it for long term

Even as he's steadily grown a successful career, actor Michael Ealy has always been something of a TV tourist.

He visits shows — including recent recurring turns on such high-profile fare as The Good Wife and Californication — but doesn't put down roots. Even when the 38-year-old has landed longer-term roles, the shows haven't lasted long — for instance, FlashForward and the Showtime drama Sleeper Cell managed to eke out a combined 40 episodes.

So the Maryland native has a simple goal for his new series Common Law, one that doesn't sound particularly lofty — until you consider his previous experiences in television.

"I'd like it to go more than two seasons," Ealy said in a recent telephone interview. "I haven't gone more than two seasons. I need that kind of leeway — I need that kind of time to really get into it.

"The first season of a show's always a roller-coaster because nobody knows what they're doing," he added. "You gotta rush through the season trying to figure out: What is this show? And who are these characters? And I think we had a really good first season considering we really didn't know. We didn't.

"The Travis I discovered at the end of the season is not exactly the same Travis I had envisioned in the pilot."

With that in mind, Canadian audiences can now buckle up and prepare to experience that same ride for themselves.

While the inaugural season of the buddy-cop action-comedy has already aired Stateside, the pilot premieres this Sunday on Showcase. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Common Law star Michael Ealy. ROBERT ASCROFT/THE CANADIAN PRESS, USA NETWORK

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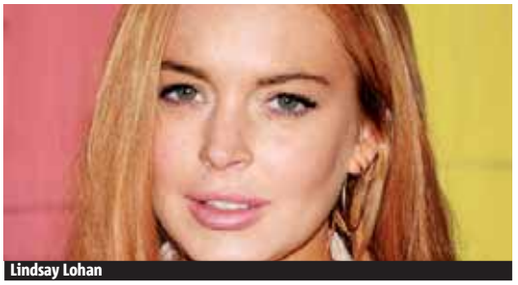
A Juste Pour Rire and Live Nation Production

J.Lo to get Vegas show?

Jennifer Lopez may be the next music luminary to take up residence in Las Vegas with a long-running show, according to Hollyscoop.

The entertainment company Live Nation has reportedly approached Lopez about a long-term engagement, and her rep concedes it's not out of the question, telling the website, "It could very well be possible."



Lindsay Lohan

This time it's not her fault

Lindsay Lohan was reportedly questioned by police after jewelry went missing from a Hollywood Hills home where the troubled actress had spent the night, according to TMZ.

Lohan was reportedly among several guests who stayed overnight after a small party at the home Sunday night. The next morning, the house's owner claimed expensive jewelry had been stolen and called the police. Sources says Lohan was very co-operative with police but maintained that she had nothing to do with any theft.

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

Prince Harry parties like a professional

MONICA WEYMOUTH
scene@metronews.ca

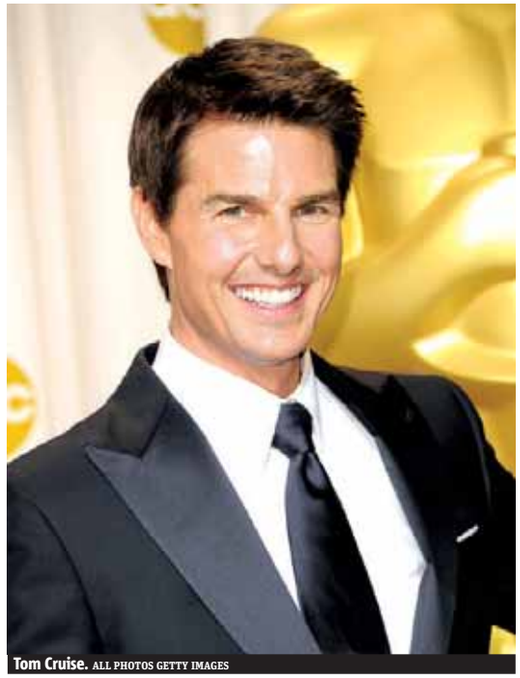
Prince Harry is learning the hard way that "What happens in Vegas, stays in Vegas" doesn't apply to drunk, naked members of the Royal Family.

Harry, you see, had a way better weekend than the rest of us. After spending Friday afternoon poolside, Harry and friends stopped by the bar of the MGM Grand, where they met some girls — with cameraphones — who were, in fact, interested in partying upstairs with a prince.

According to TMZ, it was a game of "strip pool" that led to the photos of Harry — completely naked except for a necklace and wonderfully awkward tan lines — hugging an equally naked girl from behind and holding his crotch. Harry stuck around Las Vegas long enough to challenge Olympic swimmer Ryan Lochte to a race through a pool full of girls in bikinis (he lost, in some very vague sense of the word), but was quickly summoned back to Buckingham Palace when the photos went viral.

Now, we don't envy having to explain the rules of strip pool to Queen Elizabeth.

But all in all, we'd say his weekend was well worth the international hangover.



Tom Cruise. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

It's official

Tom Cruise's five-year marriage to Katie Holmes is officially over after a New York judge signed off on the divorce settlement earlier this week, according to E! News.

Completed in a remarkably short amount of time, the finalization comes just a month and a half after Holmes initially filed for divorce from Cruise.

"Tom is very happy and relieved that he is moving forward," a source says.

"His priority is being a good father, and this settlement will make sure that continues."

More car trouble for Amanda Bynes

Amanda Bynes was reportedly involved in yet another car accident, but this time it looks like it wasn't her fault.

According to TMZ, Bynes' rental car was rear-ended by another driver Monday night, though the other driver reportedly claims they did not have enough time to react and avoid a crash after Bynes made a reckless move.

"The collision was minor and information was exchanged, therefore, no police report was taken," a law enforcement official tells the website. Bynes was driving a rental car because her BMW is still being repaired from her last fender-bender.

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Gold makes an Olympic comeback

If, like us, you're still reeling from post-Olympic depression (POD), then take solace in these golden wonders.

RICHARD PECKETT
life@metronews.ca

Striding out: The best of the British fashion industry's talent at the London Olympic Closing Ceremony. GETTY IMAGES

Perfect poise: Lily Donaldson wears Vivienne Westwood. GETTY IMAGES

She's still got it! Kate Moss in Alexander McQueen. GETTY IMAGES

Delicate power: Lily Cole in a lace and brocade Erdem dress. GETTY IMAGES

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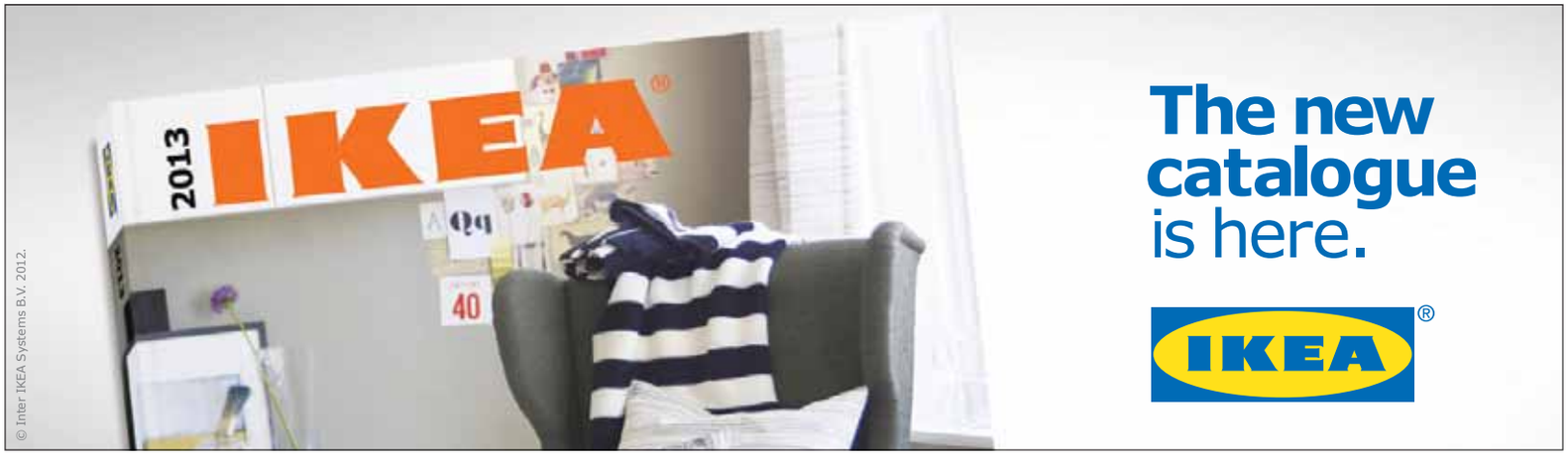
Marni metallic leather brogues
$685, net-a-porter.com

Marc by Marc Jacobs light toffee Veruschka lamé T-shirt
$520, my-wardrobe.com

On the Web

Not all Impulse: Nicole Richie touting her work ethic with new collection at Macy's



metro
METRO SPACES
Thursday, August 23, 2012

Affordable prices in The Gardens development in Richmond have been encouraging to first-time homebuyers and young families, says Chris Colbeck, vice-president of sales and marketing for Townline Homes. CONTRIBUTED

Natural balance

Green space. A 12-acre garden is at the heart of The Gardens development in Richmond

STEPHANIE ORFORD
For Metro

Just like a well-balanced diet that contains just the right portions of each food group, a well-balanced lifestyle requires the right proportions of work, socializing, alone time, and a regular nature walk. Of course, it helps to live next to a 12-acre garden for the latter.

That's the key feature that's been drawing homebuyers to The Gardens, a master-planned community in Richmond, according to Chris Colbeck, vice-president of sales and marketing for Townline Homes, developer of the project.

"The park is a huge, huge asset for us," he said.

In the 1980s, the piece of land was known as Fantasy Gardens, a biblical-themed park, but it was bought by Townline for The Gardens, who then donated 12 acres of landscaped garden back to the city of Richmond.

When the community of condos is complete it will house about 500 residential units. The development's affordable prices have been especially encouraging to first-time homebuyers and young families, said Colbeck. For buyers with small children, a city-run daycare facility will be built nearby.

And because it's located outside downtown Richmond, The Gardens has been drawing buyers from more urbanized areas of the city who want a traffic-free lifestyle, Colbeck said.

"Here you get a quieter, less densified neighbourhood feel," he explained.

The gardens are the heart of the development and have something for everyone, thanks to a public input process held by the city.

The Play Gardens are a green expanse designated for children. The Farm Gardens give locals the chance to cultivate their own fruits and vegetables. The Secret Garden is a contemplative place for a quiet walk. And the Celebration Garden is a hub for outdoor social activities like parties or barbecues.

When the weather keeps residents indoors, the Gardens Club will provide them a fitness centre and gym, as well as a meeting room.

Both Azalea and Magnolia have the same internal fixtures and finishes, including quartzite stone countertops, porcelain tiles, stainless steel Energy Star appliances, eco-friendly cabinet drawers and door fronts, and a high-efficiency stacking washer and dryer.

Surrounding amenities include shopping at the nearby Ironwood Plaza and Coppersmith Mall, and the ground level of Azalea and Magnolia will house commercial space, so residents will barely have to leave the building for many conveniences.

Entertain guests in the spacious living room and dining room. CONTRIBUTED

Quartzite stone countertops are featured in The Gardens kitchens. CONTRIBUTED

Both Azalea and Magnolia have the same internal fixtures and finishes. CONTRIBUTED

Meet The Gardens

Developer: Townline

Development: Two, four-floor, wood-frame buildings, Azalea and Magnolia. More buildings in the master-planned community to come, including Camelia, which will launch early 2013.

Prices: One-bedroom from $239,800; "junior" two-bedroom from $301,800; two-bedroom from $332,800.

Sizes: One-bedroom; "junior" two-bedroom; two-bedroom homes; two-bedroom + den homes; from 485 to 973 square feet.

Status: Azalea (90 units) and Magnolia (92 units) developments are about 80 per cent sold.

Website: liveatthegardens.ca

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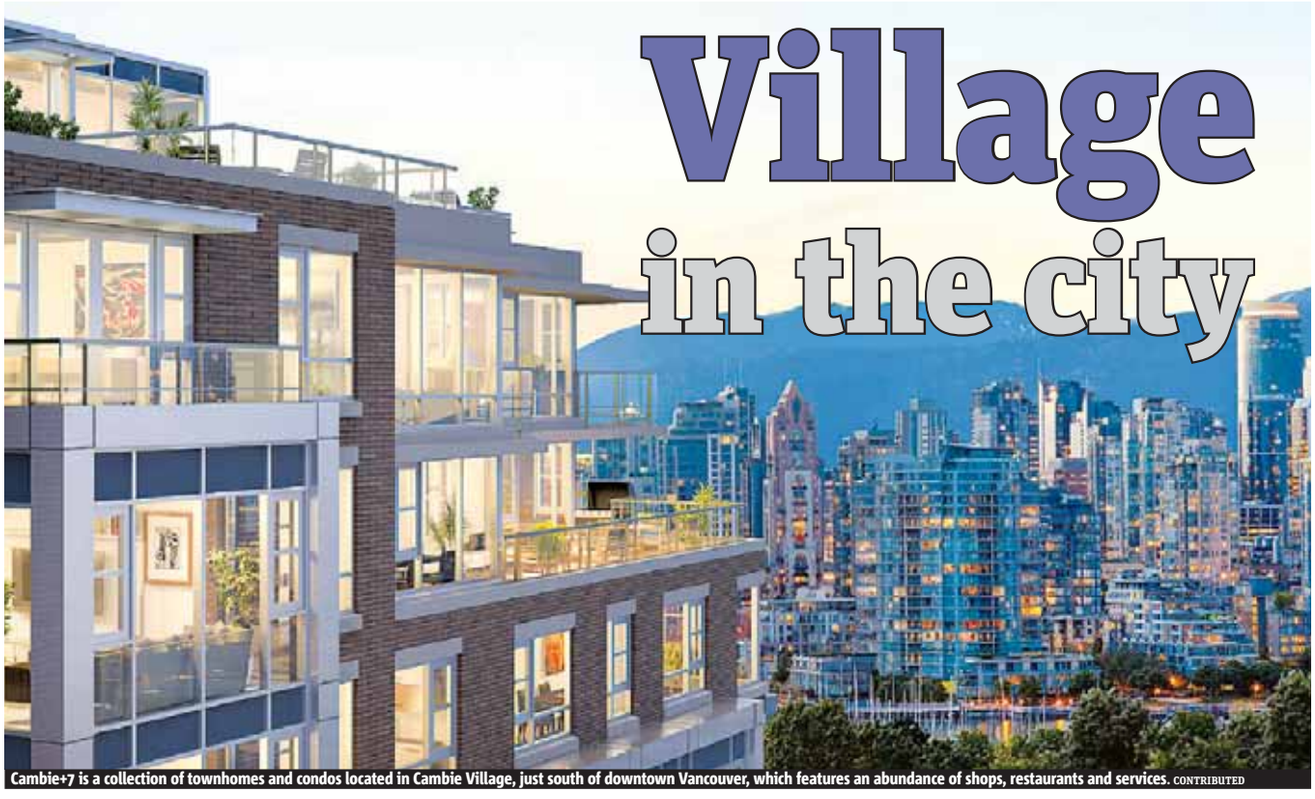
Village in the city



Cambie+7 is a collection of townhomes and condos located in Cambie Village, just south of downtown Vancouver, which features an abundance of shops, restaurants and services. CONTRIBUTED

Meet Cambie+7

Developer: Yuanheng Holdings Ltd.

Location: 538 West 7th Ave. (between Cambie Street and Ash).

Units: 57-unit, 10-storey, concrete tower plus seven townhouses.

Condo size: One- to three-bedroom, 460 to 793 square feet.

Townhouse size: Two-bedroom, two-bathroom, 939 to 1,011 square feet.

Prices: Majority of homes are less than $439,900.

Status: 65 per cent sold, four townhouses available.

Move-in ready: Fall 2014.

Website: cambie7.com.

Cambie+7 offers a vibrant neighbourhood that is established, but new

STEPHANIE ORFORD
For Metro

A quality residential project in a good location will easily weather dips in the real estate market, said Dave Bauman, sales and marketing director of Magnum Projects. His latest project, Cambie+7 ("Cambie and Seven"), is a convincing illustration of this.

Sixty per cent of the development's units sold on opening weekend in mid-July, despite predictions in recent months of a real estate slump, he explained.

Cambie+7 is a collection of condos and townhomes located in Cambie Village, an area just south of Vancouver's downtown that is centred around the intersection of Cambie Street and Broadway. The neighbourhood has burgeoned since the completion of the Canada Line SkyTrain route that runs under Cambie Street from downtown Vancouver to Richmond.

For residents, the SkyTrain line significantly boosts the area's appeal. Two stations, each a five-minute walk from Cambie+7, give residents the option of living car-free.

Downtown is a short trip from Cambie+7 via any mode of transportation, even on foot. Not that residents would need to go downtown for essentials. There is an abundance of shops, restaurants and services in the neighbourhood, including Whole Foods, Save On Foods, Best Buy, and Canadian Tire.

Cambie+7 is situated on a quiet, tree-lined street. CONTRIBUTED

Though it's down the block from a major thoroughfare, Cambie+7 is situated on a quiet street, Bauman said. Seventh Avenue is tree-lined, traffic-calmed and mainly a route for pedestrians and cyclists. (It's a designated bicycle route.)

The development is drawing a range of buyers, many attracted by opportunities downtown and in the surrounding area, but particularly young professionals who already live and work there, said Bauman. Several Vancouver General Hospital professionals have already bought units. Their workplace is just a 10-minute walk away.

Many of the buyers are already familiar with the area's advantages, Bauman said.

"There are so many renters in that area, we were finding that a lot of them are at a point where they can buy, and they're choosing to stay in the same area," said Bauman. "They're really attracted to the area's vibrancy and the fact that (the neighbourhood is) already established — but it's new," he explained.

The development's condos and townhomes have the same high-quality interior specifications, including marble flooring in the bathrooms, quartz countertops in the kitchen and bathrooms, Fisher & Paykel appliances including a gas range and a fully integrated Fagor fridge. Flooring is high-quality wide-plank laminate.

If there isn't time to get to the nearby Seawall, residents will also have access to a fitness centre and lounge.

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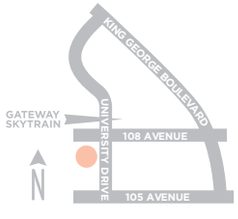

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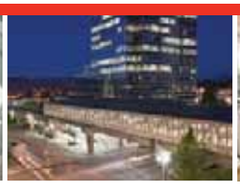

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605-590 Nicola St. — Vancouver
Listed: $899,000
Sold: $850,000
Type: Condominium
This two-bedroom, two-bathroom condo in the heart of trendy Coal Harbour sold in less than a month. At 1,130 square feet, it is definitely one of the larger units in Vancouver's business district. An executive corner suite home, this unit has a large outdoor deck and an enclosed balcony. Stainless steel appliances, marble counters, heated stone floors and a cosy gas fireplace are just a few of the high-end features to be found here. Listing agent Shaun Kimmins of Century 21 In Town Realty also points out there is a stunning view of the water, North Shore mountains, as well as the Japanese gardens and water feature below.

3367 West 27th Ave. — Vancouver
Listed: $2,898,000
Sold: $2,810,000
Type: Detached house
With a staggering six bedrooms and five bathrooms, this house in the exclusive Dunbar neighbourhood is a real find. Christopher Boyd of Rennie and Associates Realty describes the home as having three legal residences, including a two-storey laneway home and basement suite generating $4,000 per month. The West Coast-styled and contemporary house features 10-foot ceilings, three gas fireplaces, a gourmet kitchen with stainless steel appliances and stone counters, and much more. Being close to UBC and many other schools, as well as luxury shopping and dining, this neighbourhood only adds to the value of this space.

5-4295 Sophia St. — Vancouver
Listed: $638,800
Sold: $625,000
Type: Townhouse
Just a few blocks off Main Street in the artsy SOMA neighbourhood of Vancouver sits this 1,282-square-foot townhome. Sold in less than a week, this three-bedroom, three-bathroom house is close to galleries, cafés, and restaurants galore. Mary Cleaver of Dexter Associates Realty points out that the space has a large patio off the main living area, a balcony with stunning mountain views from the master bedroom, and a great green space just steps from the front door. Right in the heart of one of Vancouver's most desired school catchments, it is no wonder this home sold so quickly. **RYAN DELUCA**

Child on the way, couple needs more space

ON THE MARKET

Danika and Mark Davis have been married for three years. Now with their second child on the way, they have decided to sell their downtown condo and purchase a townhouse in the suburb of North Vancouver.

Since their first-born is only two years old, the kids can share sleeping quarters, meaning they will only need to purchase a two-bedroom home instead of a three-bedroom.

Outdoor space for the children to play is a must. This can be a large deck or yard. Finally, the house must be move-in ready. They do not want to have to do any renovations or updating before they can settle in.

The Davis' have a healthy budget of $650,000 to spend on their home.

Here are three properties that Danika and Mark should consider:

RYAN DELUCA IS A REAL ESTATE AGENT WITH SOTHEBY'S INTERNATIONAL REALTY CANADA.

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173 West 2nd St. — North Vancouver
$590,000
Located in the four-year-old Ventana building, this two-bedroom, three-bathroom townhome sprawls over 1,200 square feet. In the hart of Lower Lonsdale, the Davis family will be a short walk from shops, cafés, and the SeaBus to downtown Vancouver. With a modern open floor plan, granite counters, new appliances and a fireplace, this home is just what Danika and Mark have been looking for. Listing agent Monique Rook of Prudential Sussex Realty says this unit is in a much sought after building and is priced to sell.

1318 Chesterfield Ave. — North Vancouver
$529,000
At 910 square feet, this three-year-old townhome in Vista Place is located in the popular neighbourhood of Central Lonsdale. Two bedrooms and two bathrooms fit the requirements, and being so new means the home is move-in ready. Stainless steel appliances, composite stone counters, and a limestone fireplace are all bonuses, which add to the high-end look. Sherry Ojagh of Sutton Group West Coast Realty also points out that the large patio is great for the kids, and the proximity to shopping and dining is an added bonus.

17-728 West 14th St. — North Vancouver
$559,000
Listing agent Mary Jo Braid of Sutton Group West Coast Realty (West Vancouver) has this 1,091-square-foot, two-bedroom, two-bathroom townhome that fits right within the Davis' list of requirements. Not only is the home centrally located, but the granite counters, engineered hardwood flooring, crown moulding, and functional layout are the perfect turnkey elements. No renovations are needed here. The large rooftop deck is a great space for the children to play and also converts into prime entertaining space.

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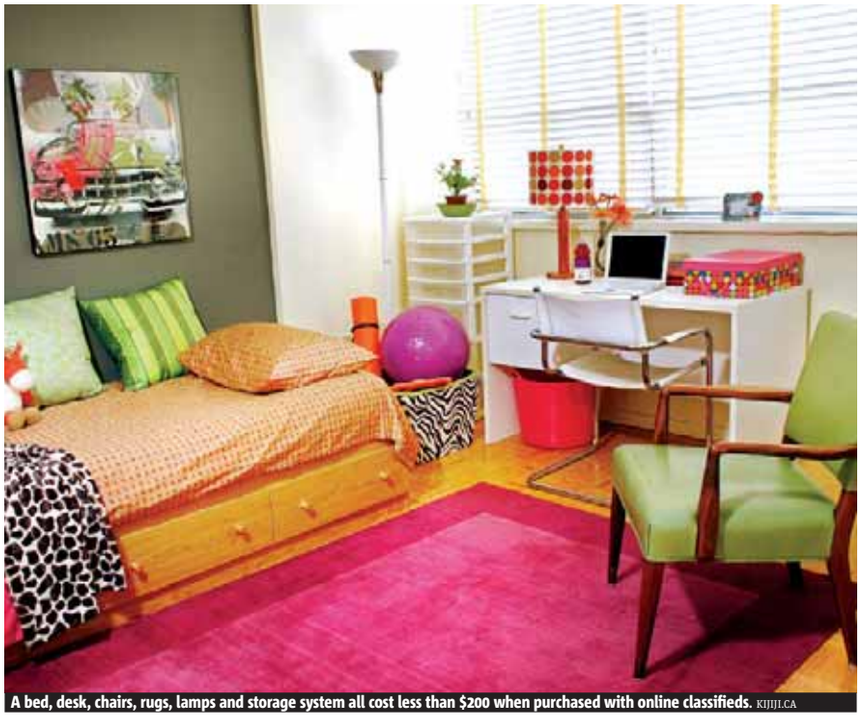


A bed, desk, chairs, rugs, lamps and storage system all cost less than $200 when purchased with online classifieds. KIJIJI.CA

Design centre.
Heading back to college? Find new and gently used items online to fit your student budget

DESIGN CENTRE
Karl Lohnes
home@metronews.ca

Finding the perfect space to call home is one of the many stresses of heading back to college.

Thankfully, there are more resources than ever to help you find great deals and build a place to make your own.

Using online classifieds like kijiji.ca makes it easy to find new and gently used items to make the space feel like home.

By applying common sense and some simple design tricks you can create a unique space on a student budget:

Find the perfect piece
Unique finds start with unique keywords so searching online classifieds using words like "vintage" almost always does the trick.

Furniture from the '50s to the '70s is on trend right now and vintage pieces like tables and chairs are stylish and surprisingly affordable.

Think outside the box with art as well; do something different like hanging a small, patterned rug on your wall (it also acts as a sound barrier).

Practice smart space-saving
Organization is the key to making a small space look amazing.

When searching for shelves and other storage items, don't forget to think vertical.

A tall bookcase or some strategically placed hooks make it easy to clear the clutter from your floors.

And, get creative with storage solutions. For example, repurpose old family heirlooms like a great big steamer trunk or vintage luggage.

Customize with colour and shape
Show off your personality with unique décor items in bold colours and shapes.

Tangerines and oranges are everywhere right now. To offset the colourful furniture, stay consistent with your basic colours and keep your walls monochromatic.

Don't forget that if you love the shape of a piece of furniture, you can always change the colour with an inexpensive coat of paint.

Updating is uber-easy
Small changes can have a big impact, especially if you're moving into an old space. Look to add a new pop of colour by simply swapping out accent pillows and small décor items each year.

Pizza without those delivery costs

Tomato-Salad Topped Grilled Pizza

This recipe serves four. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Melissa d'Arabian is a home economist for a new era. Actually, she's more of a chief financial officer.

That's because the Food Network host is as adept at balancing ledger sheets as she is at getting dinner on the table.

It's a handy skill that comes with being a trained financial strategist, and turned out to be an unlikely backbone for her culinary career.

Her basic message to thrifty home cooks? Stretch your food dollars by treating your kitchen in terms of profit and loss. "As the manager of a household you're actually running a fairly complicated business," she says. "There are simple lessons we can take from the business world and apply to our homes."

Forecasting
Successful businesses project what their upcoming costs and revenues will be. A "rapid review" of a month's worth of grocery receipts will give the home cook an idea of what's being spent, d'Arabian says.

Once you have that number, figure out how much you'd like to save per month then do some quick menu planning.

"Glance around and see what needs to be used up," she says. Then buy only what you need to fill out the meals already lurking in your pantry."

Marketing
You have to promote dinner to your kids? "You don't have to, but you'll be a lot more success if you do," d'Arabian says.

In the d'Arabian household, a different child "presents" the meal each night, explaining each dish in detail — what's in it, where it's from, how it's made. "The act of presenting the food takes the mystery out of it for picky eaters," she says.

Here is d'Arabian's recipe for a pizza you make on the grill.

Ingredients

Start to finish: 45 minutes

- 1 tbsp olive oil, plus extra for dough
- 1-lb bag pizza dough
- 1 large very ripe tomato, cored and chopped
- 1 tbsp balsamic vinegar
- 1 tsp lemon juice
- 1/4 tsp kosher salt
- 6 fresh basil leaves, torn
- 4 oz fresh mozzarella cheese, thinly sliced and quartered
- 2 cups arugula or other baby greens

1. Rub a bit of olive oil onto cutting board, place pizza dough on it, turning to coat lightly on all sides with oil. Cover with a kitchen towel and let rest for 30 minutes.

2. After dough has rested, heat one side of grill to medium-high and other side to medium-low. In bowl, combine tomato, balsamic vinegar, lemon juice, salt, basil and 1 tablespoon of olive oil. Toss well, then set aside.

3. Using rolling pin, roll out dough into circle about 14 inches across. Use cutting board to carry dough out to grill. Place the dough on hot side of the grill and grill until bottom is browned and has grill marks, about 1 to 2 minutes. Use spatula to flip dough and move it to the cooler side of the grill.

4. Top pizza with mozzarella, then cover grill and cook until the cheese is melted, about 2 minutes. Use spatula to transfer the pizza back to cutting board. Cut pizza into slices, then top evenly with the arugula. Using a slotted spoon, top the pizza with the tomatoes. THE CANADIAN PRESS/ RECIPE FROM D'ARABIAN'S TEN DOLLAR DINNERS, CLARKSON POTTER, 2012

Cookbook of the Week

Kitchen dollars and sense

Melissa d'Arabian, host of Food Network's Ten Dollar Dinners, makes good on the $10 promise of dinner for four in her debut cookbook.

Ten Dollar Dinners has 140 recipes, more than 100 practical money-saving tips and ways to get ingredients to last longer.

Her Potato-Bacon Torte shows how inexpensive supermarket ingredients can be turned into a satisfying dish. Her Roasted Vegetable Tian is a great way to take advantage of deals in the produce aisle. The Four-Step Chicken Piccata offers a plan for getting food on the table in just minutes, using almost anything in the pantry. METRO

MLB

Colon banned after testing positive for testosterone

Former Cy Young Award winner Bartolo Colon of the Oakland Athletics was suspended for 50 games Wednesday after testing positive for testosterone.

Major League Baseball made the announcement one week after all-star game MVP Melky Cabrera of the San Francisco Giants was suspended 50 games for a positive test for the same substance.

Bartolo Colon
GETTY IMAGES FILE

Colon will miss the final 40 games of the regular season and the first 10 games of the post-season if Oakland advances that far. Any remainder of the suspension would be served in a future season, if Colon signs another major-league contract. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NHL

Oilers tack on seven years to Hall's contract

The Oilers signed young forward Taylor Hall to a $42-million US, seven-year contract extension Wednesday and the Calgary native said he had no hesitation about the length of the deal.

Hall, 20, was the Oilers' first-overall pick in 2010 and was second behind Jordan Eberle in team scoring with 27 goals and 26 assists in 61 games. His season was cut short due to a shoulder injury, but says he's four-and-a-half months into a six-month recovery and feeling close to being game-ready.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

NHL commissioner Gary Bettman, left, and deputy commissioner Bill Daly leave NHLPA offices on Wednesday in Toronto. CHRIS YOUNG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

NHL negotiations go dark for a day

CBA. Labour talks put on hold as league, players decide 'how to move the process forward in the best way possible'

The NHL's latest round of collective bargaining talks ended before they began.

A scheduled bargaining session was cancelled Wednesday afternoon after top executives from the league and players' union held a secret morning meeting to discuss the best way to move forward in the discussions.

They mutually decided to reconvene with their negotiating teams on Thursday morning, when key economic issues are slated to be back on the table.

"I think system-related proposals and economical proposals are the most critical issues and probably the issues where we have the widest divergence of views currently," deputy commissioner Bill Daly said. "I'm all in favour of spending as much time as possible trying to bridge those gaps."

The clock is ticking. The current collective agreement is set to expire Sept. 15 and the NHL says it will lock out the players if a new deal hasn't been reached.

The atmosphere around the talks is a mix of uncertainty and growing frustration — with NHLPA executive director Donald Fehr acknowledging he didn't "know what's going to happen for sure" when the sides met again Thursday.

"You get up in the morning and you try and work that day to see if you can make progress," he added. "If you don't find an agreement that way you do it again the next day and you keep doing it until you find a way."

Quoted

"I'm all in favour of spending as much time as possible trying to bridge those gaps."
Bill Daly, NHL's deputy commissioner

On Thursday, the NHLPA will expand on its proposal as it pertains to rules governing player contracts, according to two sources. Those details weren't previously included when the players presented their offer last week. The sides have put two very different offers on the table and are still grappling with a wide financial gap.

They attempted to start moving toward a more formal negotiation with only the four main players in the room — Daly joined NHL commissioner Gary Bettman for Wednesday morning's two-hour sitdown with Fehr and his brother Steve Fehr, the union's No. 2 man.

"I think more than anything else it was to review where we are in the process, where we've come from, where we are with the various proposals and to determine how to move the process forward in the best way possible — hoping and understanding that both sides are committed to using the time left to making a deal as quickly as possible," said Daly.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Teenager to make history at Canadian Open

Brooke Henderson, 14, on Wednesday at the Vancouver Golf Club in Coquitlam. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Brooke Henderson is set to make history when she tees off at the CN Canadian Women's Open.

The 14-year-old Smiths Falls, Ont., native will become the youngest golfer ever to compete in the tournament, which opens Thursday at the Vancouver Golf Club.

"It's definitely pretty awesome, especially when you look at all the great players on the LPGA Tour now and all the great players that have come before me," Henderson said Wednesday.

Golf Canada officials said Lexi Thompson of the U.S. was the previous youngest golfer to compete in this tournament, at age 15, in 2010 in Winnipeg. Now 17, Thompson will also be competing this weekend.

Youngest ever

- Henderson, a member of Golf Canada's development squad, gained entry by winning a CN Canadian Women's Tour event earlier this year in Beloeil, Que.
- She became the youngest-ever golfer — male or female — to win a professional tournament, but had to decline the prize money because she is still an amateur.

Henderson has also captured the Canadian and Ontario junior girls championships this summer.

"I'm just really looking forward to the week, and I just want to stick to the game plan that I've come up with after looking at the course for the last few days," said Henderson, who is entering Grade 10.

In addition to a Canadian title, Henderson dreams of playing on a golf scholarship at the University of Florida and one day becoming a regular on the LPGA Tour.

"I just love to play," she said. "I just want to continue to get better and improve my game in all aspects. Hopefully, in the years to come, I can be a great player — and win."
THE CANADIAN PRESS

4 SPORTS

Mobile sports

Rory McIlroy says he reveres and respects Tiger Woods' amazing list of accomplishments. But the PGA champion would still "love Tiger to go out first and kick his (behind)" when they pair up at The Barclays this week to kick off the PGA Tour playoffs. Scan the code for the story.

Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
You seem so relaxed at the moment that others may think you no longer care, but that isn't true. Find ways to let loved ones know you are still there for them, even when your head is miles away.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
As Mars moves into the partnership area of your chart a lot of excitement will be generated in one-to-one situations. It will amuse (and delight) you when you realize so many people want to get close to you.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
You may find yourself at odds with people you work with today. No matter how much pressure they put on you to back down, you must not give in. You are right and they are wrong. It's just that simple.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
Don't wait for other people to make the first move. Make it yourself and leave those you live, work and do business with in no doubt that you've got your act together. It's time to get serious about your ambitions.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
As Mars moves into one of the more sensitive areas of your chart today, you will be forced to confront people who have been giving you a hard time. Be direct, but listen to their side of the story as well.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
After a long period of being held back, you are at last free to pursue what interests you — regardless of what others might think or how much it might cost. Go a little crazy today. You owe it to yourself.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Don't waste your time on trivial issues. Now that energy planet Mars is leaving your sign, you have to get serious about how to make best use of your resources. They're not unlimited, you know.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Over the next few days, you will find that many more things go well for you, including those things you thought you would never master. Mars in your sign gives you the kick you need to be more active and ambitious.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You won't be quite so relaxed and easygoing today and tomorrow. Mars in the most sensitive area of your chart means you'll tend to see the negative more than the positive. Maybe, in the short-term, that's no bad thing.

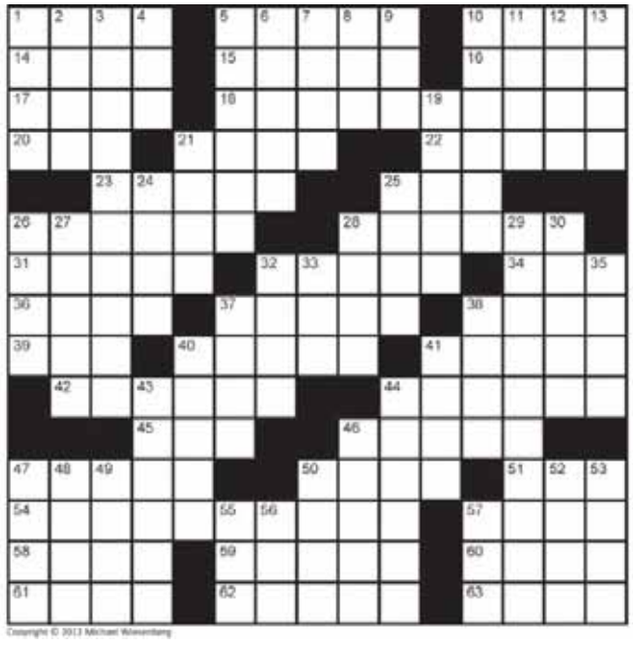
♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
What you do for others today will come back to you in some form in the very near future. Go out of your way to help people in need, and your own needs will be taken care of too.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Mars crosses the career angle of your chart today, firing the ambitious side of your nature. Whatever it is you decide to do, it must be huge. Don't limit yourself to petty triumphs — go for the big one.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
If you are planning a trip of some kind, you could hardly pick a better time because with Mars on your side you will head straight for your destination and won't allow anything to get in your way. Drive safely . SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword: Canadiana

BY MICHAEL WIESENBERG



Across
1. Best baccarat hand
5. Mark sale items, perhaps
10. Go for a dip
14. "I have ____ good authority" (2 wds,)
15. British noblemen
16. Cantina fare
17. Ontario-born *Scream* star Campbell
18. Ontario, Erie, et al. (2 wds.)
20. Simon and Garfunkel's "I ___ Rock" (2 wds.)
21. Place for a 34-Across
22. Computer warning
23. Italian town in which the *Quantum of Solace* horserace takes place (anagram of ANISE)
25. CBS forensic drama
26. 7-Up nickname
28. Destination in a two-part route (2 wds.)
31. Blackened, as a chimney
32. Reeked
34. Canadiens member, familiarly
36. Blues songstress James
37. Table positions
38. DNA carrier
39. Batter's stat
40. Appears
41. Particular strength
42. Jabbered
44. It's a party in the UK
45. Chips accompaniment
46. Battlefield doctor
47. Days-old
50. Deceptive manoeuvre
51. Drum set
54. They handle our mail (2 wds.)
57. Opera set on the Nile
58. Neural transmitter
59. Actress Zellweger
60. Clairvoyant one
61. Circle
62. Ebenezer Scrooge, for one
63. "Hey, buddy"

Down
1. La ___: El Niño counterpart, an ocean phenomenon that affects weather
2. List part
3. Maritime Province (2 wds)
4. WSW opposite
5. Saskatchewan capital
6. —— living: work for wages (2 wds.)
7. *Enterprise* journey
8. Chicken ___ king (2 wds.)
9. Canada's national levy, for short
10. Former Soviet leader Joseph
11. Arouse from sleep
12. "Happy birthday" writer, perhaps
13. A majority
19. Cornea-reshaping surgery
21. Have faith in, with "on"
24. Tiny amount
25. Bamboozles
26. One with a computer
27. "___ a long shot!": "No way!" (2 wds.)
28. Affectionate taps
29. They form the Alberta-BC border (2 wds.)
30. Central and southern African people
32. Bird food
33. Scotsman's cap
35. Molson's, say
37. Ooze
38. Mongolian desert
40. Schussed
41. Become dim
43. Edmonton-born pop and country singer-songwriter and occasional actress who renders her name in lowercase letters (2 —3? — wds.)
44. PM Pearson
46. Museum: Fr.
47. Wound result, sometimes
48. Cab
49. Before much longer, poetically
50. Hollywood's Howard and Perlman
52. "Beware the ___ of March"
53. Fruit pastry
55. Elbow's locale
56. Maritime Prov.
57. African cobra

Yesterday's Crossword

What's online

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

	3				9			
2			7	5		4	6	
7		8					1	
	6	2		9				
			6		2			
				7		3	2	
	4					5		1
	9	1		6	8			7
			4				3	

Yesterday's Sudoku

6	8	9	1	4	2	3	5	7
5	3	2	7	6	8	9	1	4
7	4	1	5	3	9	2	6	8
3	9	4	6	8	5	1	7	2
2	5	7	9	1	3	4	8	6
8	1	6	4	2	7	5	9	3
4	6	8	2	9	1	7	3	5
9	7	3	8	5	4	6	2	1
1	2	5	3	7	6	8	4	9

Today 20°/12° Variable
Friday 19°/12° Partly cloudy
Know what the weather will be 14 days from now. Check the 14 day trend.
TWN incorporates MSC data

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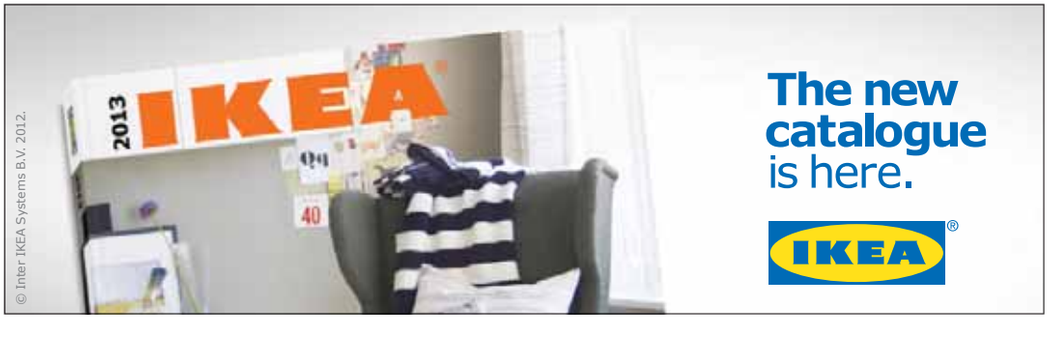

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